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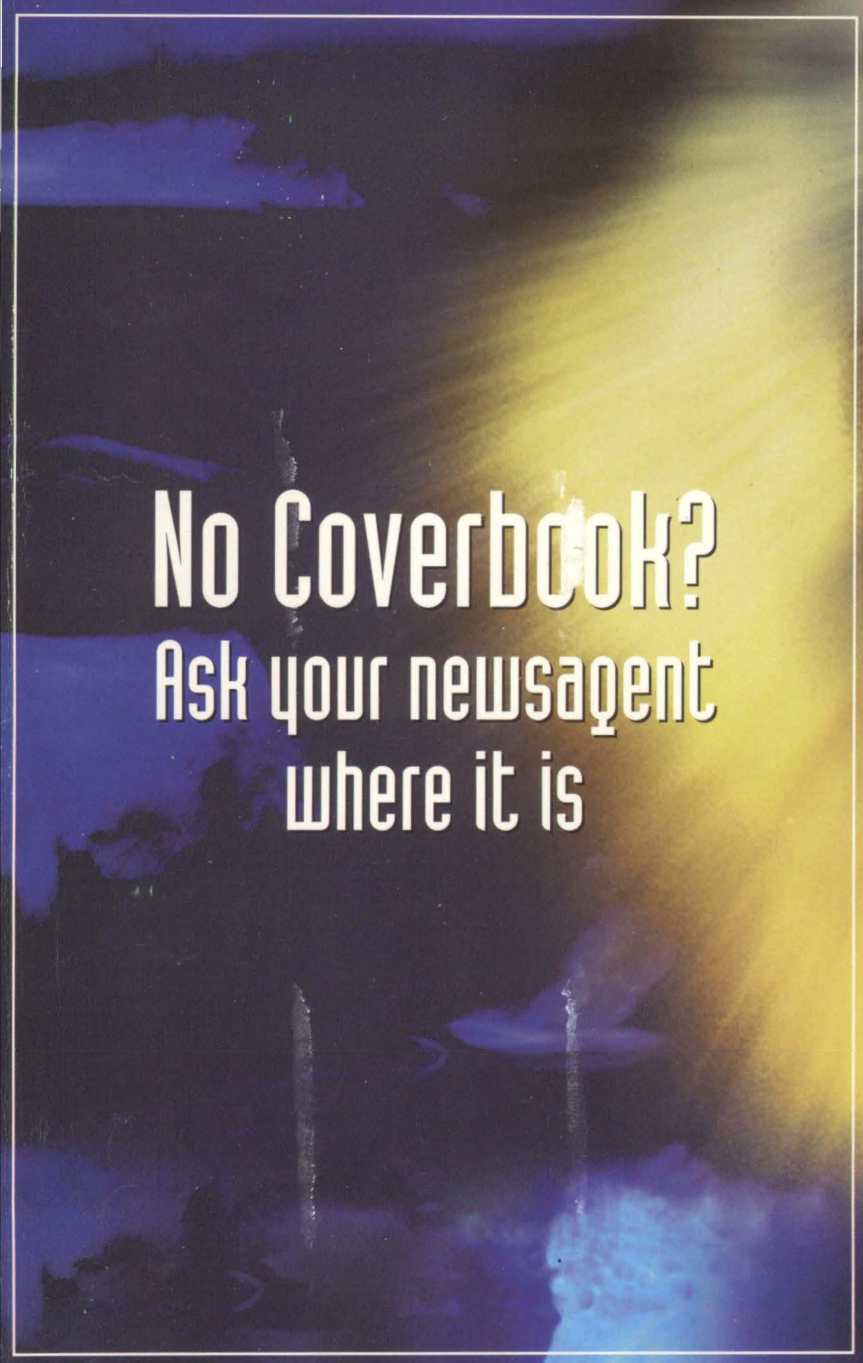


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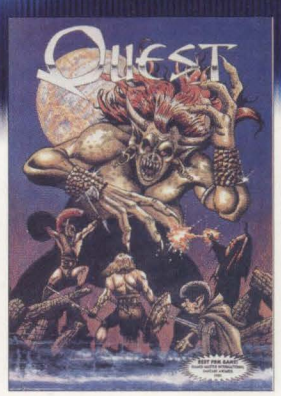


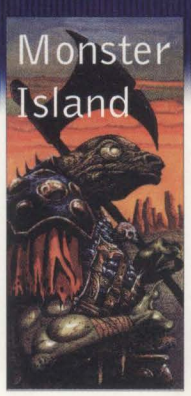


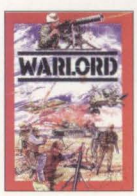


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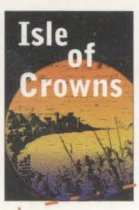


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# Controversial ENCOUNTERS

Controversial is one good word to describe **Encounters**. This particular issue should really rattle your sense of stability. With interviews that probe deeper into the psyche of UFO believers and everything from predictions of the Earth's demise, to haunted investigations that will make you sleep with the light on. Don't expect a comfortable read, just expect a dazzling one. Our highly experienced writers will deliver you with more insight than you ever dreamt of.

The following pages are primarily a forum for those who have had far from ordinary experiences.

Magazine wise, **Encounters** is going from strength to strength, mainly due to your support. We really do appreciate the positive response we have received. The only sour words that have been aimed our way are unsurprisingly from our competitors, which is quite childish in my view and also self defeating. Despite a real temptation, I will not be drawn into a slanging match by these people. You, the readers are my prime concern and we at **Encounters** are doing everything in our power to give you value for money, as I hope you will realise with our dedication to giving you cover mounted extras, on top of our regular publication. I am also sure that many of the stories our magazine covers would never have otherwise seen the light of day, which would have been a great shame for the public at large.

Soon, your TV sets will be buzzing with a whole spectrum of paranormal new series. BBC1 are to release a paranormal show called *Out Of This World* and Live TV are currently filming *The Why Files*. Other pilot shows are also in the pipeline. It seems that the subject is still gaining popularity. This is good news.

Slight variations on the same explanations keep flooding into our offices from different organisations and personal accounts. With the passing of time, the truth should be finally chiselled out. Hopefully we can keep bombarding you with the most spectacular stories, which we have been given, told or researched, all in good faith.

R Forsyth

Richard Forsyth
Editor.

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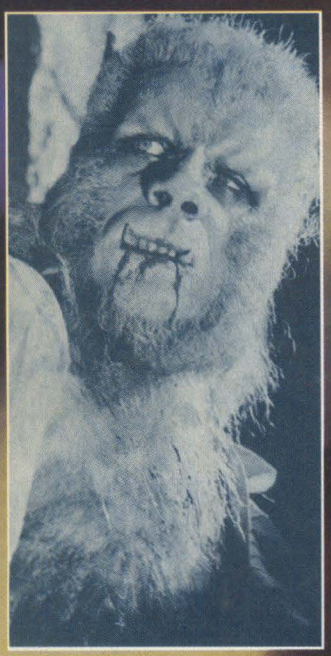

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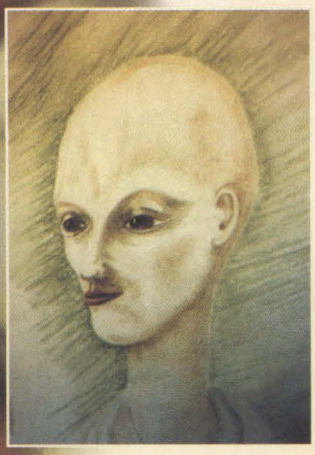

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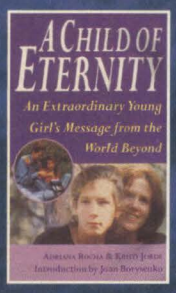


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Everything hot from the weird world of the paranormal!

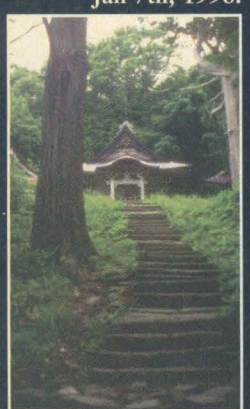
# World NEWS

## KOREAN UFO

South Korean Air Force personnel monitored a doughnut-shaped object that hovered over a provincial park in Taegu.

According to the Yonhap news agency, the strange object glowed with a luminous red light and passed silently over the hilly park. A large crowd gathered to watch it move across the evening sky.

**Source: The Observer. Jan 7th, 1996.**



# NEW FOREST CATTLE MUTILATION

These disturbing photographs were taken in the New Forest and represent proof of a growing phenomena, namely cattle mutilations. The cows were discovered on Sunday 20th January, 1996, by four gentlemen out for an afternoon walk. The first cow was lying on its left side and appeared to be untouched. The second cow was lying approximately fifteen feet away and on further inspection it was discovered that the animal's rectum and sexual organs had been removed. There appeared to be a clean oval incision from the base of its tail to the top of its hind legs, similar to other mutilations previously reported. The animal's right ear had also been removed with a clean cut.

The cattle appeared to have no other wounds that would distinguish the cause of death. There were no traces of blood visible but this may be explained away by the length of time the animals had been dead, which was estimated to be approximately one week.

One of the gentlemen who made the find told us that he did not think that the animal's injuries were caused by night time predators, despite the length of time the cattle had been dead, as the cuts on the body were simply too clean. He also dismissed the Forest Ranger's suggestions that the animals had died from simply acorn poisoning, for obvious reasons.

The gentleman later informed us that his father was in fact a gamekeeper and on many occasions he had accompanied him when he was working, and as a result had seen many dead animals, but never in his life had he come across such a 'clinical' scene of carnage, and he hoped he never would again.

# UFOs BLAMED FOR SOMALIA'S SONIC BOOMS

Somalila's authorities are claiming that mysterious explosions over north-west Somalia have made people fall ill and animals behave strangely, and now the authorities are requesting an investigation into reports of unidentified craft flying over the region.

The Government is stating that two sonic explosions were heard in December 1995 in the city of Berbera and on the Gulf of Aden.

A detailed report stated that inhabitants of the areas where the booms were heard, had started to suffer from abnormal coughing, breathing difficulties, diarrhoea and headaches. The most affected groups were children and some had even reportedly died.

Eye witnesses said that they had seen a flying object with smoke trailing from it, and one man said he saw an aircraft at low altitude flying over the town of Ceel Afweyne in December and then heard a deafening explosion that shook the ground and his home.

Some explanations have been offered including a satellite re-entering the Earth's atmosphere or a meteorite, but it is said that the most likely cause for the booms was the "detonation of a missile".

**Source: Orange County Register. Feb 5th, 1996.**

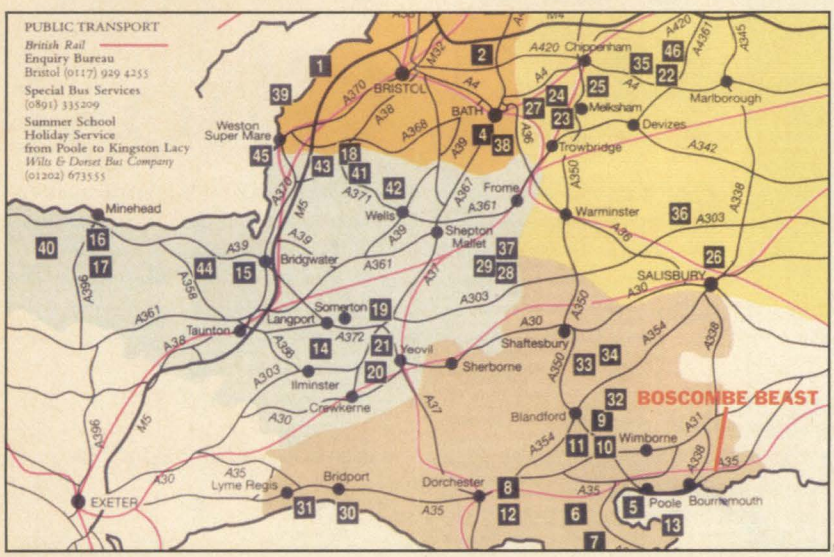
## POLISH UFO CAUGHT ON VIDEO

It has been reported by the Polish Press Agency that Poland's first video depicting a UFO has been filmed in Lodz on the night of December 31st to January1st 1996.

Two luminescent spheres appeared over Lodz on that night. Seven people standing on a balcony saw and filmed the spheres, which came down from the sky, and then whooshed back up at breakneck speed. The whole tape lasts for about one minute.

Natural phenomena, like fireworks, planes, satellites or sunlight effects have all been ruled out as possible reasons for causing the spheres to appear.

**Source: Polish Press Agency. Feb 2nd, 1996.**




# BOSCOMBE BEAST

A local story now. On 13 March, 1996, David Haith of the local Advertiser paper received two reports of sightings of an alien in Boscombe Park, Boscombe, at 3am in the morning.

One eye witness was walking with his girlfriend and spotted a tall 'being' in the park with lights on its arms and a strange head, like a rugby ball laid flat. Another driver glanced the being when driving by the park. Both witnesses seemed curious but not alarmed, not quite sure of what they were seeing but nevertheless reported it to the paper. If anyone can shed any light on this story we would appreciate it. We'll keep you posted.

# ASTRONAUT SEEKS TRUTH

Edgar Mitchell, the sixth man to walk on the moon after the Apollo14 moon landing is pressing for the declassification of government records pertaining to UFOs. During the mission in 1971 Mitchell gained a reputation for being a maverick by transmitting symbolic images by way of mental telepathy to a friend in Chicago. Because of the publicity surrounding his upcoming book *The Way Of Explorers*, Mitchell was invited to a private meeting of former government/military officials hoping to recruit his visibility for their most peculiar campaign. "These were people who, in their official capacity, had an opportunity in the course of their duties to have extraterrestrial contact," Mitchell says. "The purpose of the meeting was not to convince anybody else of their stories, but to get people released from their security oaths with regard to these phenomena."

Mitchell is convinced there is a small amount of valid UFO information and that there is a body of misinformation at least ten times that size put out to confuse the whole issue. He has joined Mercury astronaut Gordon Cooper and 20,000 other Americans in signing the Roswell Declaration, a petition calling for the release of UFO documents to the public.

Mitchell went on to stress that he received no knowledge of the possible existence of UFOs during his NASA training, because at that time NASA were so sure there were no such things, there was no discussion of it. However, he now feels that if there was prior knowledge of UFOs and he and his companions were sent into space almost blind to the facts, then that is a case of criminal culpability.

**Source: Florida Today. Jan 12th, 1996.**

## STRANGE OBJECT CAUGHT ON SECURITY CAMERA

This remarkable piece of footage was sent to us by Steve Smith, and shows what a security guard managed to pick up on video whilst scanning the night sky near a warehouse where the camera was installed. The results are fascinating.

The object appears on the video as a bright light hovering above the distant hillside, however when the camera zooms in on this light, it becomes apparent that it is very bizarre indeed. The object remains stationary for a great deal of time, but then suddenly starts to shoot from side to side and up and down at a great speed.

# The Town Hall Ghost

On Thursday March 7th, 1996, *The Daily Star* reported the strange case of a picture of a spooky figure standing on the town hall steps of Wem council in Shropshire, and declared, "Is this the face of a ghost?"

The image appeared on the negative of a photograph taken by amateur photographer Tony O'Rahilly. Tony had photographed the blaze at the 90 year old town hall said, "When I saw the image appear on the negative it was hair-raising, I went very cold and the blood drained from my face. It's up to people to think what they like, but I know its real."

Amazed locals think it may be the ghost of a 14 year old girl who accidentally torched their community 300 years ago.

**Original source: The Daily Star. March 7th, 1996.**

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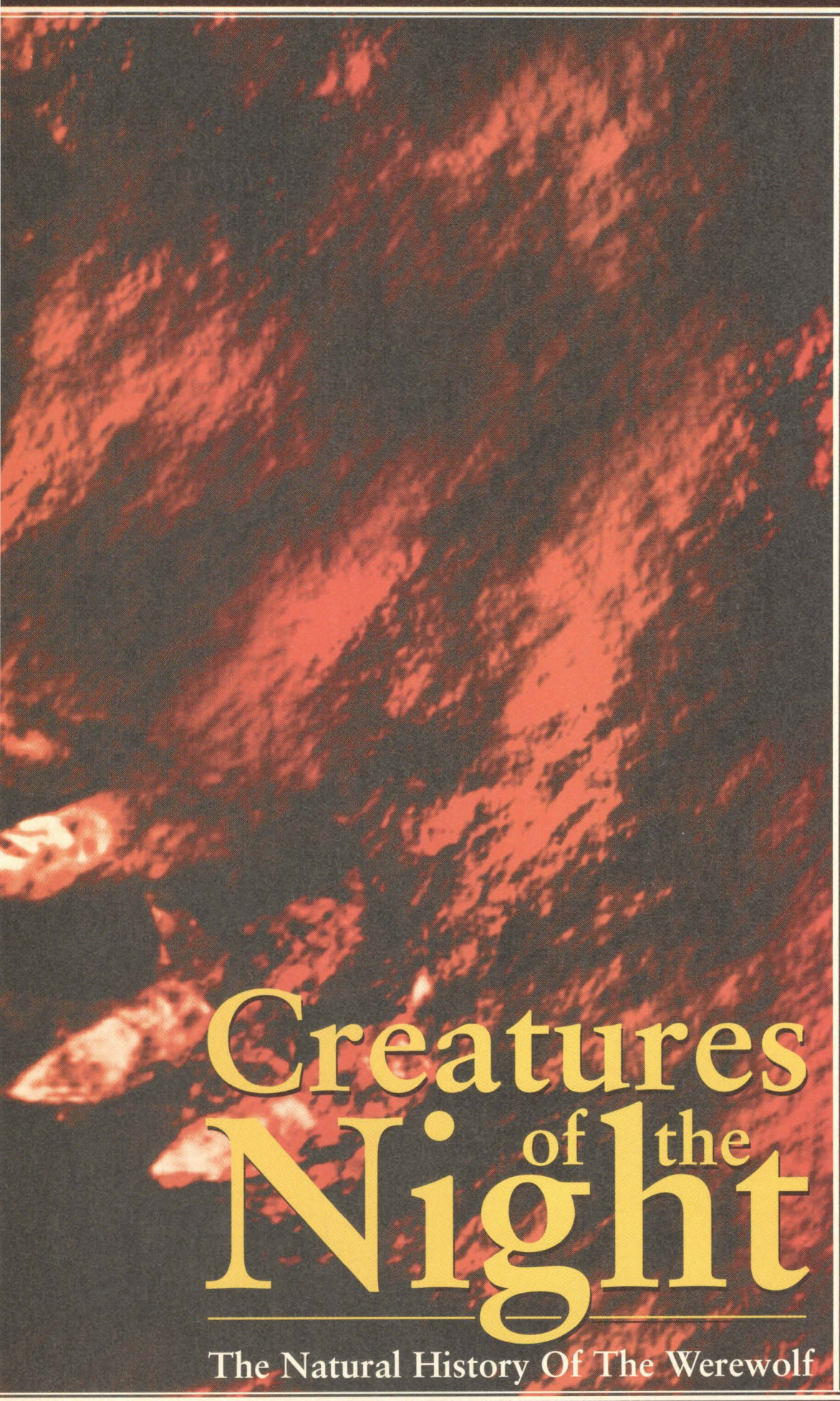
# THE WEREWOLF



# Creatures of the Night

## The Natural History Of The Werewolf

In any gallery of the ghoulish and grotesque, the werewolf occupies a place of prominence. Belief in werewolves, or lycanthropy, to give it its true name has long been a feature of European folklore. Rusell Warren delves into the grisley past and brings the wolfman to life for Encounters.

# THE WEREWOLF

Peasant folklore claimed that a werewolf could be identified by certain telltale features.

The Greek historian Herodotus, writing as early as the 5th Century BC, tells of a tribe in eastern Europe, the Neuri, who for a few days every year became wolves. Probably they were the followers of a totemistic cult who regarded the wolf as their totem-animal. The Latin 'versipellis', meaning 'turn-skin', shows that the Romans also knew of werewolves. Indeed the First Century Roman writer Petronius recorded a bizarre tale which already contained all the essential elements of the central European werewolf tradition.

The tale is put into the mouth of a character called Nicerus. While walking to his lady-friend's villa in the company of another friend, Nicerus witnesses some weird happenings. Suddenly the friend starts babbling to the stars, strips stark naked, turns into a wolf and flees howling into the woods. When Nicerus reaches his friend Melissa's house, he learns that a wolf has been worrying the cattle. He is also told that it managed to escape but not before a slave had wounded it in the neck with a lance.

Suspecting the worst, Nicerus rushes home. The tale concludes in classic werewolf fashion: "when I got home, I found my friend the soldier in bed, bleeding at the neck like an ox and a doctor dressing the wound. I then knew he was a turnskin, nor would I ever have broken bread with him again".

In the time of St Augustine, during the 4th and 5th Centuries, it is known that magicians sold herbs guaranteed to effect such a transformation. In later traditions this was normally accomplished by the use of magic salves or enchanted girdles fashioned of wolf skin, although in Germany a girdle made from the skin of a hanged man was held to be just as effective. Such ointments or girdles were usually seen as a gift of the devil or a demon.

▲ When you look in the mirror first thing in the morning, is this what you see? If so, please alert the authorities that you are a werewolf.

Peasant folklore claimed that a werewolf could be identified by certain tell tale features. In Denmark it was alleged that a man whose eyebrows met in the middle was to be regarded as a werewolf. More generally it was believed that a wolf with 'human-like' eyes or a short (even missing) tail was very likely to be a werewolf in animal form. Italian peasants held that a baby conceived on the nights of the feasts of St Paul and the Annunciation was liable to be a werewolf. It was recommended that, as a precaution, the child's father or grandfather should take a lighted coal and burn the sole of its foot or the nape of its neck shortly after birth.

There is little doubt that, amongst such credulous people, the werewolf provided a scapegoat for crimes of sadistic murder and cannibalism. Criminology, both ancient and modern, is full of such cases, from the sexually deranged child killer Gilles de Rais in 15th Century France, to the modern Wisconsin murderer Ed Gein who not only ate the flesh of his woman victims but also made waistcoats of their skin. Many of the werewolf trials of 16th Century France involved crimes of a similarly perverted nature.

It is also an undisbuted fact that before the advent of modern psychiatric medicine, mental illness was totally misunderstood. The Greeks believed epileptics to be werewolves. Lycorexia is a recognised pathological condition in which the patient develops Bulimia (an abnormally increased wolfish appetite) and a fixation that he actually is a wolf or some other animal. Any manic depressive or schizophrenic is likely to exhibit certain symptoms of werewolf behaviour – staring eyes, bared teeth, slavering jaws, abnormal strength, animal like fear and appetites.

16th Century France produced a rash of werewolf trials. It has been reliably estimated that between the years 1520 and 1630, over 30,000 people were put to death in France because they were alleged to be werewolves. Royal decrees were issued, culminating in the parliament of Franche-Comté announcing a law expelling werewolves. Of the French werewolf cases, that of Pierre Burgot and Michel Verdun is one of the most notorious. When tried by the Dominicans of Poligny in 1521, both Burgot and Verdun claimed to have obtained an ointment from their demon master whereby they might become werewolves. They admitted to killing several children, sucking their blood and eating their flesh. The unrepentant Burgot also claimed to have enjoyed sexual relations with wolves.

Gilles Garnier, who was condemned to be burned alive at Dole in 1573, was said to have seized a twelve year old girl in a vineyard, killed her with his hands and teeth, dragged her into the wood at La Serre and there eaten the greater part of her. He so enjoyed this grisly meal that he took some home for his wife. He also killed and mutilated other child victims.

In 1603 Jean Grenier, a boy of only 14, alleged before the judge of Roche-Chalans that he was a werewolf and had eaten children. He accused his father too of being a werewolf and possessing a wolf skin, and another man, Pierre la Thillaire, of having a similar skin and a magical ointment. The behaviour of the boy in court clearly demonstrated that he was insane and he was transferred to a convent. In spite of this, the

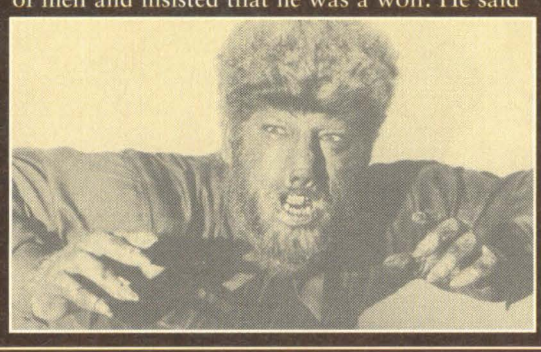
charges against the two men were pursued. In 1610 the judge De Lancre visited the convent where the boy was incarcerated. He found that the boy could run on all fours "as nimbly as a hound", that his nails were hard and black, his teeth very strong and his manner of eating voracious and disgusting. He had not recovered from his delusion of being a werewolf.

Jacques Rollet was arrested as a werewolf at Conde in 1598. Two wolves were seen devouring a child's body, whilst another ran off into a neighbouring field. The fugitive wolf was found to be a man of wild appearance. He claimed that the two other wolves were his brother and cousin. At his trial the evidence was somewhat contradictory, but he was condemned to death. The sentence was subsequently annulled and Rollet ended his days in an asylum.

The most widely quoted werewolf tale from France is probably that of the gentleman who, whilst out hunting in the mountains of the Auvergne, was attacked by an enormous wolf. In the ensuing struggle, he managed to lop off one of its forepaws. Stuffing it into his pocket, he ran off terrified. On the way home he showed the prize to a friend, only to find in his hand not the bleeding paw but the hand of a woman upon which was a wedding ring. The friend instantly recognised the ring as that of his wife. He hurried home and discovered her sitting by the kitchen fire, her arm concealed under her apron. Seizing her arm, he was shocked to find his suspicions confirmed. There was the stump, oozing fresh blood. The woman was, on these grounds, arrested and later burned publicly in Riom.

Fifteen years after the trial of the infamous Gilles Garnier, a particularly horrific werewolf trial took place near Cologne in Germany. Peter Stube (or Stumf), confessed to having been intimate with a female succubus for some twenty eight years. The succubus, he claimed, had given him a magic girdle with the aid of which he could transform himself into a werewolf. Over the years he had killed and eaten fifteen children and made attempts on the lives of two of his daughters in law. The sentence passed on Stube was excessively brutal. He was to be decapitated, but not before his flesh had been plucked off with red hot pincers and his bones systematically broken with a hatchet.

In 1541 a villager near Paule killed a number of men and insisted that he was a wolf. He said that the only difference between normal wolves and himself was that they wore their hairy coat on the outside but that he wore his between his skin and his flesh. A number of enraged villagers set about testing the truth of this theory, brutally gashing his arms and legs. He died of these terrible wounds some days later.



The belief that a werewolf changes into his animal form at full moon is based on the fact that the changing phases of the moon do seem to have an effect on human behaviour. The existence of the word 'lunacy' is evidence of this. Two hundred years ago English law differentiated between the terms 'insane' and 'Lunatic'. If a man was insane, he was incurably psychotic, whereas a lunatic was susceptible only to changes in the lunar cycle. Crimes committed by a lunatic were viewed more sympathetically by the courts. In many 18th Century asylums patients were beaten on the day before a full moon to deter them from violent behaviour on the following night.

Such practises, though harsh and uncivilised, were based on a true correlation between full moon and wild behaviour, as modern psychiatric and criminological studies have shown. It is fair to assume that the sort of crimes of which werewolves stood accused were more likely to be committed at a full moon.

As with their close cousins the vampires, werewolves can only be destroyed by certain means. The belief developed in both France and Britain was that a werewolf was impervious to ordinary bullets. Only a silver bullet, preferably consecrated in a church, could deal effectively with a werewolf. It was said that a werewolf could be cured by calling out his Christian name three times or by drawing its blood when in animal guise.

Werewolves are only one manifestation of the widespread belief in the power of 'Shape Shifting'. This power was credited to witches, it having been conferred on them by Satan. Thus witches were said to be able to change into cats, hares and other animals at will. But in most European countries, and especially France, the wolf was the most feared and ferocious predator and so acquired a particularly demonic reputation.

Slinking through the night with its baleful eyes glowing green in the misty moonlight, the wolf was impartial in its carnivorous habits. It cared not whether it dined off sheep or shepherds. The werewolf was a projection of every peasant's deepest fears and an acknowledgement that there is, in man, a darker side which may lie nearer to the surface than we would normally allow.

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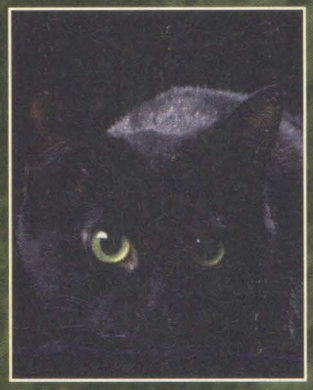
▲ The werewolf has been one of the cinema's greatest hairy monsters, but the beast originally stemmed from folklore, not Hollywood.

**As with their close cousins the vampires, werewolves can only be destroyed by certain means.**

# SHAPE SHIFTING

**Russell Warren takes a look at Britain's history of demon shape shifting and comes up with a credible theory for the distinct lack of spectacular, slavering beasts roaming our forests these days.**

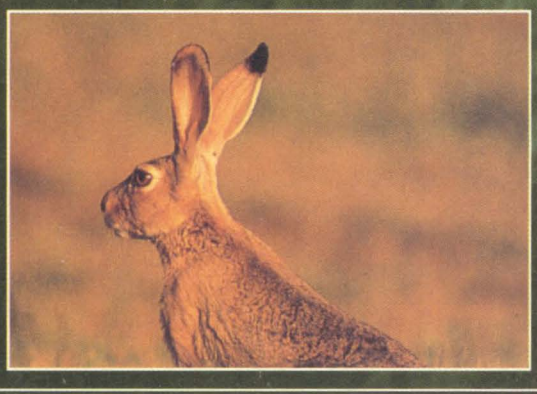
Britain's wildlife is no longer as fierce or exotic as the wolf. The last wolf in England met its end early in the 16th Century, since when, our witches have had to be content with masquerading as cats and hares. This fact has incidentally given rise to the superstition that a hare or a black cat crossing your path is a sign of ill omen. And yet, despite the different form which shape shifting takes in our own culture, the many local anecdotes on this theme from all parts of Britain bear the stamp of the universal lycanthropic legend.



Typical is the following case recorded from Dorset. A man suffering from indigestion attributed his misfortunes to the wicked agency of his neighbour. One night, seeing a black cat jump on his bed, he attacked it with a stick which he always kept handy. The next morning, on enquiry, the neighbour was found in bed with her head swathed in bandages.

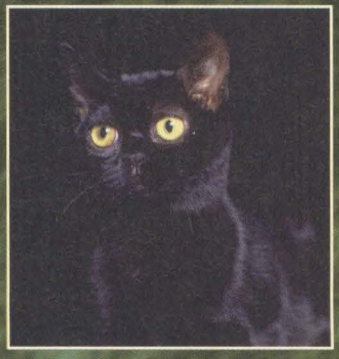
The story illustrates well the one element so essential to the tradition, that the wounds inflicted on the animal are reproduced on the witch's own body, often with startling fidelity.

During the latter half of the 19th Century, a Yorkshire clergyman was told of an old witch named Nanny, who was hunted in the form of a hare over the Westerdale Moors. She managed to keep well ahead of the dogs, until a black one joined the pack and succeeded in getting close enough to take a bite out of one of the hare's back legs. That was the end of the chase because



▶ Witches were thought to assume the shape of a hare to suckle milk from cows.

the hare sought refuge in Old Nanny's cottage. On entering the cottage, the sportsmen found the old woman laid up in bed with a sore leg. "On examining the wounded limb", the account continues, "they discovered that the hurt was precisely in that part of it which in the hare had been bitten by the black dog and, what was still more significant, the wound had all the appearance of having been inflicted by a dog's teeth."



Also from Dorset comes the intriguing story of a labourer in the Isle of Purbeck who had noticed a hare regularly sitting at a stile as he made his way home in the evenings. A friend advised him to put a sixpence in a gun and shoot it, so he borrowed a gun and shot at the hare when next he saw it. As the wounded hare limped away, the labourer threw his sickle after it. The sickle struck it but the wound did not incapacitate it badly enough to prevent it escaping. When the labourer reached home, a neighbour told him, "Old Nanny's a dying and wants to see thee!"

"Sure, do she know?" said the labourer.

**She managed to keep well ahead of the dogs, until a black one joined the pack**

# : BRITISH STYLE

"Ees", replied the neighbour, "and she's got a cut all across her back as if someone had cut it with a rip hook!

The belief that a witch disguised as a hare could be best wounded or killed by using a gun with a silver coin or button as ammunition, is a clear parallel with the silver bullet which figures so often in the central European werewolf tradition.

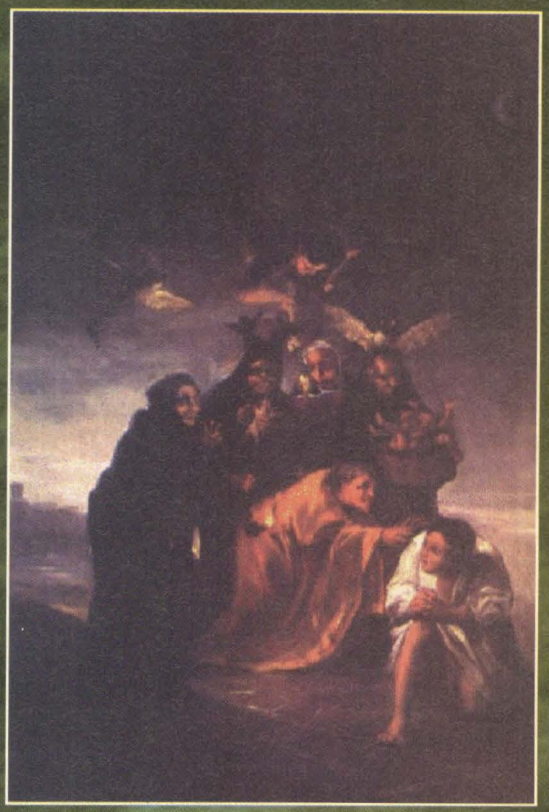
There is a comparable tale, again from Dorset, associated with the little village of Worth Matravers. For some time a particularly large hare had been seen in the area. Many of the locals had tried potting at it but without success. The hare was so fast on its feet that no-one could catch it. Finally the wife of one of the villagers suggested to her husband that a silver coin might be tried. She produced one from a hoard which she had and with the coin's help the hare was shot in the leg. From that day, an old woman of the village suddenly and inexplicably became a cripple.

From Lincolnshire comes the following strange tale. A father and his son, suspecting a black cat of being a witch, pounded it with stones. The next day they met the witch in her human form. The bandages about her face confirmed their suspicions and she died from the wounds soon afterwards.

The anthropologist Frazer quotes a large number of such tales, including this interesting one from Argyllshire. A young man on the island of Lismore was out shooting one day. On the shore of Balnagown Loch he startled a hare and fired at it, injuring it in the leg. The animal

gave an unearthly scream and, for the first time, the young man realised that there were no hares on the island. Throwing away his gun in terror, he fled home. The next day he heard that a notorious witch was in bed with a broken leg.

Of the purposes for which supposed witches assumed the form of hares, perhaps the most frequent was to suckle milk from cows. The curious belief that witches do this (particularly on Walpurgis Night and Midsummer Eve) extends throughout Europe. Various measures are said to prevent it, most notably the use of rowan wood, commonly attached to the cow's tail in the form of a cross. The washing of cows with dew is also claimed to be effective in various localities. In less sophisticated times, the Irish preferred the foolproof remedy of killing all the hares which they happened to find amongst their cattle on the first of May. An interesting reflection of this superstition is also contained in a report on Scottish prisons published in 1846. According to this, a certain man in prison at Dingwall charged with assaulting a woman aged 60 justified his actions by claiming that, "she had been seen a hundred times milking the cow in the shape of a hare."



▲ The Incantation, by Francis De Goya 1797-1880, depicts demonic witches.

**A father and his son, suspecting a black cat of being a witch, pounded it with stones. The next day they met the witch in her human form. The bandages about her face confirmed their suspicions**

# Readers' Stories

## THE ENFIELD FLYER

This is the very strange tale of the Enfield Flyer, a ghostly stage coach frequently seen racing down leafy lanes before disappearing into thin air. This story was sent to us by John Bennett, of Lavender Hill, Enfield.

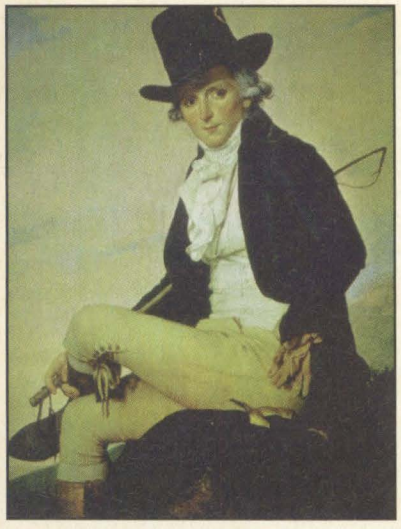
One type of ghost story which appears frequently in the folklore of Britain is that of the phantom stage coach, clattering along quiet roads at breakneck speed before vanishing as mysteriously as it appeared, leaving witnesses shaken and totally bemused. Enfield, in North London, can lay claim to having one of the more famous examples of the genre.

The 'Enfield Flyer' as it has become known, has appeared in many studies of supernatural Britain and is currently listed in *The Good Ghost Guide*. It is said to frequent the area around Enfield Highway and Ponders End, normally on clear moonlit nights.

An early, well-documented sighting was recorded in 1899. Three women were returning home from work in Ponders End one night when they witnessed the ghostly stage coach rise up out of the ground and race off in the direction of nearby Brimsdown. It was lit very brightly at the front and inside sat three figures, believed to be a man and two women. It is said that the women were wearing large hats.

The coach itself was pulled by horses and although the sound of scraping wheels and stomping hooves could be heard, it was noticed that the whole ensemble travelled a few feet above the ground.

The local press took up the story and more witnesses came forward, some claiming to have seen the Enfield Flyer pass through obstacles. In fact one report even stated that it was seen to pass through a house.



Another good sighting was made in the 1960s by a young man on his way to a Boys' Brigade meeting.

As he cycled along Bell Lane, off Enfield highway, he was forced to dismount in order to avoid collision with a brightly lit vehicle that was careering towards him. He could see figures seated behind the lights and in front were what looked like teams of horses. Before he knew it, the mystery vehicle had passed right through him. It was only then that he got his first clear view of the jet black stage coach. Once again, the apparition travelled a few feet above the road.

Since that dramatic encounter, recorded sightings of the ghost were impossible to come by, threatening to put the Enfield Flyer into the realms of myth and hearsay. However, last year, a letter to the local press certainly put the phantom stage coach firmly into the present day.

In the *Enfield Independent* of 25th October, 1995, a woman wrote to tell that one night in September that year, her husband had arrived to pick her up from a bingo hall in Tottenham looking ashen faced and stunned. It was only when they were sat alone together in the car that he could he bring himself to describe what had happened that evening.

As he drove along Meridian Way, a large new road linking Ponders End with Upper Edmonton, he became aware of an incredibly bright object coming toward him. As it got closer, he was astonished to discover that it was in fact a stage coach, but he could do little to avoid it.

As the coach passed "through" the car, the interior lit up brightly and the man felt himself go icy cold all over. Looking into the rear view mirror only compounded the shock, there was absolutely nothing there.

The couple tried to think of rational explanations but none were forthcoming and the woman's husband is sure of what he saw. In fact neither of them had heard of the legend of the Enfield Flyer until a friend brought it to their attention. Thus she was driven to write about the incident.

**Encounters** says: To make sure that the Enfield Flyer does not to enter the realms of folklore, if you have had a sighting of the phantom stage coach, or indeed anything similar, please write to us here at **Encounters**.

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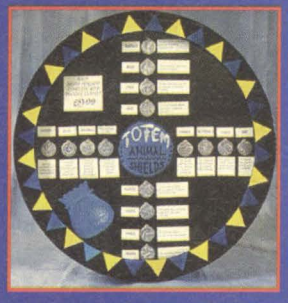

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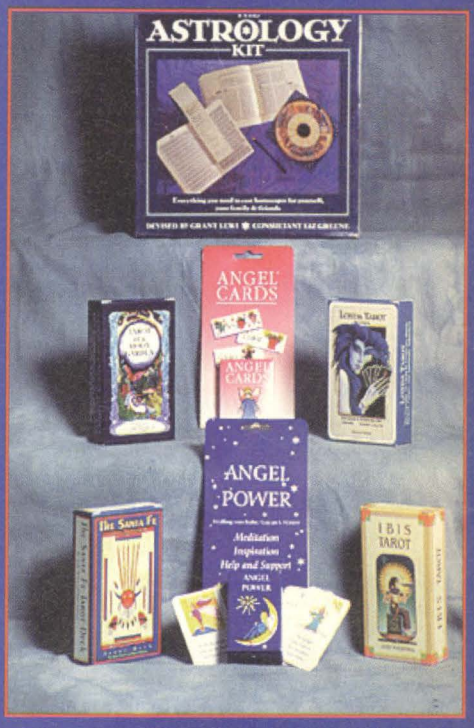


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# The Blue Room

**This fully documented account was sent to us for publication by Kenneth John Parsons who is the Director of Investigations for The British Earth, Aerial and Mysteries Society, or BEAMS for short. This story tells the tale of the 18th Century prophetess Joanna Southcott, and how a still thriving cult called the Southcottians are continuing her practises even today.**

In times of old it was said that the gift of prophecy arrived directly from God, or indirectly through the ministration of demons. Examples of the strange quality are to be found in many biblical and ancient figures, notably Plato, Orpheus and Merlin. Even now, it is still generally recognised by those working closely in fields associated with the paranormal sciences, that influential energies from the spiritual realms occasionally interact with human consciousness.

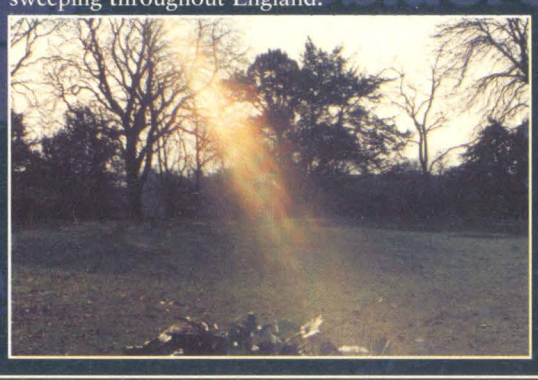
Over the years I have taken it upon myself to research the truth about many extraordinary, psychically-gifted people. One case that holds a particular fascination for me is that of a woman by the name of Joanna Southcott, who received premonitions on a fairly regular basis throughout her life in the 18th Century. What follows is the true story of her freakish powers and about the Southcottian cult whose beliefs centre around the contents of a darkened Victorian temple in Bedford.

## JOANNA'S STORY

Miss Southcott was born in Taleford, Devon, in April 1750, the fourth daughter of pious tenant farmers William and Hannah Southcott. Her baptism was performed in the 14th Century Collegiate Church at Ottery-St-Mary. Throughout her childhood she was a happy-go-lucky sort of girl who liked nothing better than spending her holidays either playing with her friends down in the apple orchards, or reading poetry and passages from the Bible.

Upon reaching adulthood Joanna went into domestic service, before later moving to Exeter to become an upholsterer's assistant.

As a result of her religious upbringing she spent much of her spare time in Exeter Cathedral in deep devotional study. It was while she was in this part of Devon that she became entranced by the Wesleyan religious movement, whose highly charged interpretation of the Bible was then sweeping throughout England.



► The top of the Castle Mound in Bedfordshire where The Panacea Society is now based.

As the months passed, Joanna became affected by nightly waves of premonitory visions and disembodied voices, which she claimed were messages from God.

Miss Southcott became so obsessed by what she believed was divine inspiration, that sometimes she would awake in the early hours to write down prophecies that the Deity had directed to her.

The utterances which came to her during the night were always preceded by numerous raps upon her bedroom wall.

It is documented that a voice once addressed her: "Joanna Southcott, the Lord God is awakening out of his sleep and will terribly shake the Earth. There shall be wars and rumours of wars. Nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. There shall be famines, pestilence and earthquakes. The sign of the Son of Man shall appear in heaven, and he shall come in the clouds with power and great glory. Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Incredibly, the political upheavals of that time worsened shortly after this message, adding great credibility to the voice's portentous warnings.

One night, the now 42 year old Joanna, allegedly received a spiritual announcement that revealed how she had been "sent by God to Exeter", to become "The lamb's wife" — in other words, the representative of our Lord. She was informed that it was her duty to remain pure and untouched by any mortal, and so she shunned all normal relationships with men and started referring to herself as the 'Temple of Shiloh'.

During an Easter chapel service in 1792, Joanna fearlessly stood up and repeated this information to the local Wesleyan congregation. There was an hysterical uproar from the audience, some of whom, not surprisingly, hurled unmitigated abuse at her, whilst others chanted such things as "Shame" and "Blasphemy".

In response, it is recorded that "Joanna fell into fits and fever on the floor" as if possessed by demonic forces she was left "struggling with the powers of darkness" for days afterwards.

Despite all this drama, many were sympathetic to her cause and she gradually built up a small but fervent following. Some people have

questioned why no-one at that time ever considered her a prime candidate for the lunatic asylum. After all, had this prophetess been alive in the days of Joan of Arc, she would have been burnt at the stake.

But far from losing touch with reality it was quite evident that Joanna was in full control of her life. She always displayed considerable common-sense and shrewdness in the way that she conducted her personal and business interests.

However, many attempts were made by her enemies to prove that she was a fraud or that her apocalyptic, millenarian prophecies came from the devil himself. Obviously such accusations were impossible to uphold, and even under the intense pressure of public scrutiny, she continued with her career, issuing many Bible based forecasts.

## DIVINE WRITINGS?

Gradually her fame began to spread to other counties. Joanna moved to Bristol in 1798 where she began working on the first of her many books and pamphlets. A slim volume of her initial set of predictions was published in 1801. This work contained a challenge to "any twelve ministers" to test her powers of prognostication.

The voice informed her that over the next 22 years she would receive divine guidance, and for this she must employ two secretaries to take down her dictation. Dozens of remarkable future warnings were then sent by the 'Spirit of Truth'. Joanna was told to seal them and put them aside.

According to the Panacea Society of Bedford (see later), "The prophetess was divinely told not to publish certain of her writings but to place the papers in an Ark or Box ", which was to be stored for safe keeping in the Guildhall, Exeter.

On January 1st, 1802, three eminent Church of England representatives and four other witnesses attended what was called the 'First Trial' of Miss Southcott's predictions. Invitations had also been sent to several members of the local clergy, including the Bishop of Exeter, but they had declined the offer.

After breaking the seals on the stored documents, Reverend Stanhope Bruce of Inglesham, Gloucestershire and Reverend Thomas Webster of London, along with four other witnesses, examined Joanna's writings. The seven judges all determined that the information contained in the box could only have been obtained by paranormal means.

Apparently, a quarter of the documents contained an impressive display of personal details and predictions about the actual ministers present at the 'Trial'. The judges also marvelled at how the rest of the sealed writings contained such a huge mass of important world events that were yet to come.

All of these valuable works were put back into storage in readiness for the 'Second Trial' which was to take place in London.

◀ Steps leading to the Castle Mound, directly opposite where Joanna's 'Great Box' is thought to reside.

The word spread, and rightly or wrongly, Joanna now began to gain status. Her rise to notoriety over the following months was astonishing. Joanna's inspired disciples world-wide, (known as Southcottians) began showering her with money and expensive gifts and in a short time, the farmer's daughter had become a messianic figure. It was at this point in her life that she decided to be at the centre of operations, so she moved to London.

## TEST NUMBER TWO

A second 'Trial' of Joanna's writings took place at High House, Paddington, at the beginning of 1803. One of her declarations was that the Bishop of Exeter, who was in good health at the time, would have an untimely death. She predicted the exact date of the Bishop's future demise, which proved to be totally correct.

For months afterwards, people gossiped about little else in England. In the meantime many more of Joanna's future predictions were being stored in the 'Great Box' as it was called.

When finally full, the casket reportedly weighed 156lbs. Finally the lid was secured with copper nails and the whole effort was tightly bound. The binding cords were then sealed with seven wax seals, one for each of the witnesses present, and the box was put in the safe keeping of some friends.

Some time later the box was given to the Reverend T P Foley, a staunch believer in the prophetess and her work. When he died it passed to his son, and since then it has been handed on from guardian to guardian, as it became necessary, until today. It is said that when the box is finally opened, under the conditions laid down, the prophecies will, if heeded, "save the human race from disaster".

**Joanna became affected by nightly waves of premonitory visions and disembodied voices, which she claimed were messages from God.**

"I am now compelled to flee, not only from the face of my enemies, but from friends likewise, to conceal myself in a place of safety, where I am not known by any person."

Southcottism spread quickly. Chapels that were devoted to the teachings of Joanna started to appear in many districts including, London, Leeds, Stockton-on-Tees and Salford. The increased publicity meant that Joanna had left herself open to much harsher criticism. Some cartoonists ridiculed her with the aid of satirical, caricature drawings that portrayed Joanna Southcott as a bulbous old witch who suffered from delusions of grandeur.

Despite this derision, many more accurate forecasts were issued by Joanna regarding top-ranking members of the Church of England, an area which won her a great deal of respect. What could be described as a new religion had grown up from nothing, all based around the teachings of this charismatic woman.

In her last work, Prophecies Announcing the Birth of the Prince of Peace, there is a passage that reads: "I am now compelled to flee, not only from the face of my enemies, but from friends likewise, to conceal myself in a place of safety, where I am not known by any person, and my name I am obliged to conceal to preserve my life from malicious and inveterate enemies, who threatened to set the house on fire where I lived, and to take my life if they by any means could get me in their power." Her place of hiding was to be Rock Cottage, Blockley, Gloucestershire, which she had secretly used on and off as an escape from the hurly-burly of town life since 1804.

## JOANNA'S AMAZING CLAIMS

Drawing on inspiration from the Book of Revelations, Joanna became convinced that she was to become the 'Second Eve', the woman who would save mankind from the original sin into which the Biblical Eve had first led us.

One night she heard a voice that defied belief. She was told that although she was well past the menopause, one day she would "bare a son by the power of the most high" – the birth of Shiloh, the second Messiah, as promised in the Bible. In the summer of 1813 she made a public announcement that "in ten years from the fourth of the century the Messiah will come".

It should be noted that, both in the old testament and in the writings by the Southcottians, 'Shiloh' was equated with Christ (Messiah) and not with Jesus Christ.

The church complained that Joanna had been prophesying the coming of Shiloh, which the Church took to be a second coming of Jesus. They believed that Joanna was denigrating the perfection of the incarnation and resurrection, but to be fair, that was not true.

The Shiloh was to be a second Messiah, not the reincarnation of Jesus, and the world having rejected the first coming, was to be given a second chance.

As the time of the birth approached Joanna invited many eminent people to send their

## SOME FACTS ABOUT THE AREA OF BLOCKLEY

The name Blockley is derived from the ancient 'Bloccanleeh', a dedication given to the worship of nature gods and the rejuvenation of the human spirit.

Situated in a valley, Blockley is surrounded by hilltop earthworks.

Some ten miles or so away from the village is the Great Rollright stone circle, the third most famous monument of its kind in England after the likes of Stonehenge and Avebury. Joanna Southcott's diaries reveal that she visited this henge site on a number of occasions. Sometimes called the 'King's Men', this group of carvings measures 100 feet across, and contains about 70 rugged stones. A quarter of a mile away are the 'Whispering Knight' monoliths which originally formed the surroundings of a long since vanished Bronze Age burial mound. Several individuals have claimed to have seen elemental spirits at this extra-sensorial place. There still exists, in certain parts of the world, a widespread belief in this type of creature. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote that elementals "use bodies that we should describe as a lighter than gaseous nature, but we should be entirely wrong if we thought them in consequence insubstantial. In their own way they are as real as we are."

Apart from the wonders of the Rollright henge, this part of England has been noted for some years by para-scientists for its unusually high yield of genuine, single and double ringed crop circles.

Discoveries in fields at Salford Priors, Church Lench and Abbots Morton have been particularly impressive.

Another Cotswold site, Widden Hill Farm, was also in the headlines some years ago. One morning in 1975, farmer, Peter Lipiatt, was astounded to see thousands of neatly constructed piles of stones covering the surface of one of his fallow crop fields. When interviewed, the farmer was asked if he thought that this was the work of someone he knew, perhaps as a practical joke, he replied "It would have taken a lifetime to build them". Numerous naturalists have confirmed that no animal could have performed this strange feat. To this day it remains a mystery where the stones came from and who built the piles.

personal physicians to examine her condition and verify this miraculous pregnancy. 17 out of the 21 doctors who examined Joanna, declared that they were in no doubt that the 64 year old was pregnant and the baby was due to be born on18th of November. The news caused an absolute sensation, crowds of dedicated believers came from all over the world to gather outside Joanna's house to catch a glimpse of her.

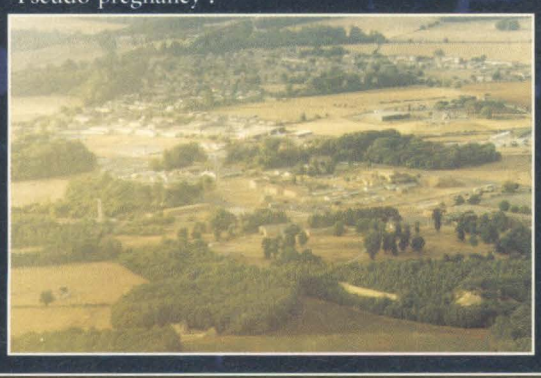
## A CRIB FOR A BED

In September of that year, a special crib for the Messiah was ordered to be built by a leading furniture company at the cost of fourteen thousand

pounds – a considerable sum in those days. The canopy of this sumptuous creation was decorated with stars and had a small globe at each corner. In the centre of this design, a gold dove was depicted with the olive branch of peace. The curtains of the crib were sky blue with a gold fringe. On the front and sides, the words 'welcome the heavenly stranger' were painted in gold lettering. The back of this state bed bore a crown of gold with the word 'shilo' printed in Hebrew.

Inside the frame of satin wood and embroidered in gold, there were a real down mattress and pillows. The crib's sheets and pillow cases were of the highest quality and trimmed with lace. They lay together with a quilt of white satin which was embroidered with the tree of life and emblematic figures of the millennium.

But the big day came and went without incident. On November 19th, Joanna told Dr Reece, who examined her, that she believed that she was "gradually dying" and gave him written instructions to "open her body" four days after her death. Some of her followers believe this was to release a spiritual child into the world. Joanna passed away on December 27th, 1814, a year before another of her predictions was to be fulfilled, that of the Battle of Waterloo. An autopsy revealed a swollen condition of the womb that is sometimes known as a 'phantom' or 'Pseudo pregnancy'.



It is said that one of the surgeons at this operation, exclaimed "My God! It's gone", referring to the supposed foetus.

Joanna's body was laid to rest on New Year's Day in St John's Wood cemetery. Her passing away did not spell the end of the Southcott movement.

Southcottians continued to pursue their beliefs under a range of different leaders for well over another century. In 1874 a powder barge exploded beneath a bridge in Regents Park, scattering debris for some distance. One huge chunk of the boat smashed into Joanna's tombstone in St John's Wood giving a new meaning to its inscription "Thou wilt appear in greater power".

## THE SHINING STAR

In 1919, Alice Seymour, Secretary of the Southcottian Sect, and an absolute devotee of Joanna, came to live at Rock Cottage with her companion and secretary Miss Mary Robertson, a graduate of St Andrews University. One day the women experienced an incredible vision in the "veritable abode of peace".

The women described their vision as follows: "As we were looking out of Joanna's own bedroom window, we were astonished to see what looked like a great shining star or diamond. It was resting, so it seemed, on one corner of the slab that supports the urn that stands at the top of a flight of steps leading up to the garden path. Great long shafts or tongues of brilliant white light continued to shoot upwards and outwards over the garden for a quarter of an hour, sometimes the long rays seemed to reach even to the top of the fine old fir tree, that stands close by like a sentinel on duty."

## THE CONTENTS OF THE BOX

Was Joanna crazy? Was she in league with God or the devil? Or did Joanna Southcott hold the key to some great power, a power that is part of all of us, in the Earth and all around?

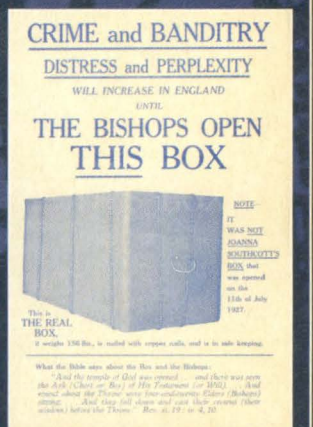
Joanna had given strict instructions that the box containing her prophesies was to only be opened after her death, and during a time of "grave national danger", beyond any of the trials we have yet endured.

It is said of the box that, "crime and banditry, distress of nations, and perplexity will continue to increase until the Bishops or their representatives open Joanna Southcott's box of sealed writings."

Over the years, a number of false boxes have appeared on the scene. Southcottians believe that these may have been deceptions perpetrated by certain high ranking members of the Church of England, to dampen public interest in the writings.

In 1925 a small, coffin shaped case that was claimed to be Joanna's box, was opened in Hammersmith. It contained only a Bible and a lock of hair. During the same year another disappointing box was opened, this time in Bournemouth.

**Joanna's body was laid to rest on New Year's Day in St John's Wood cemetery.**




▲ Advertising from The Panacea Society extolling the virtues of the real Southcott box of predictions and writings.

# SOUTHCOTTIANS

The lock of further pathetic looking box, this time weighing just 11lbs, was due to be forced in 1927 at the Church House, Westminster. Investigator Harry Price was booked to do the honours, but after having earlier performed X-ray tests on the casket in his lab, Price already knew that just mundane, everyday objects of the 18th and 19th Centuries, completely unconnected with the prophetess or her teachings, lay inside. Still, the job had to be done and in the presence of just one Church official, the Bishop of Grantham, along with an eager audience, he went along with the charade.

Someone like Joanna, who had already made so many accurate predictions would not have wished to discredit herself by such a practical joke. I am sure that she would have left many inspirational statements, even if only to be a thorn in the side of those who were disbelievers.

**Since about the time of the First World War, Southcottians worldwide have been urging the Bishops to open Joanna's ark of sealed writings.**

## WHERE IS THE BOX NOW?

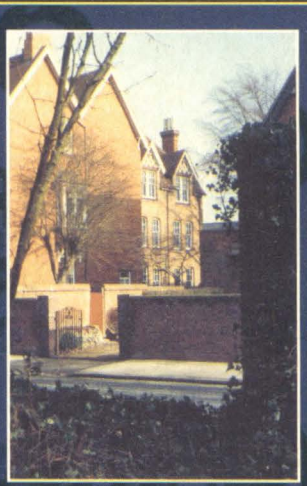
Bedford in Bedfordshire has long been the home of a branch of Southcottism called the Panacea Society. I have visited their Newnham Road headquarters a number of times. Situated only yards from the Castle Mound, I've noticed that the side window panes of this three storey Victorian mansion, have, without exception, been painted blue to obscure sunlight.

The group's secretary, gave me only the most rudimentary of interviews. She seemed to be extremely evasive, shunning any in- depth enquiries by telling me that, from time to time, they occupy space in The Daily Mail and The Daily Telegraph newspapers, detailing the set circumstances under which 'the great box' can be opened.

In the group's adverts they quote what they believe The Bible says about the box of teachings, "and the Temple of God was opened and there was seen the Ark (chest or box) of his Testament (or will), and round about the Throne...were four and twenty elders (Bishops) sitting, and they fall down and cast their crowns (their wisdom) before the Throne." (rev xi.19, rev iv.10.)

Since about the time of the First World War, Southcottians worldwide have been urging the Bishops to open Joanna's ark of sealed writings. Until the Church of England representatives send for and open the box, accepting the attached conditions, the Panacea Society are unable to proceed any further.

I managed to track down one of the caretakers who used to work at the Newnham Road house. When I enquired about the purpose of the painted windows, he told me that it might have something to do with a 'coffin' stored in one of the blue rooms.



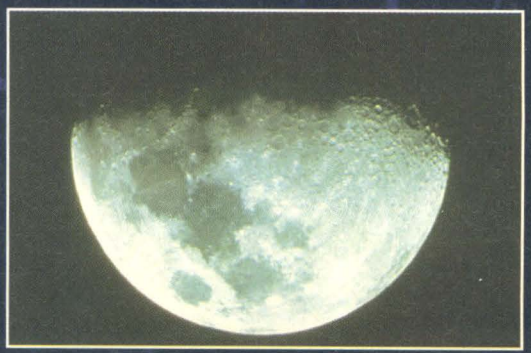
He claimed, that although the door was usually kept locked, once he caught a rare glimpse inside what the group terms 'The Blue Room'. He said that the coffin was on an altar surrounded by burning candles.

The Panacea Society states that it wishes to keep the contents, and whereabouts, of the true Southcott box a closely guarded secret, until the time is right for a grand opening. At that time, they say, "A miracle will occur", so the reason for all of the seclusion is understandable.

Until this article, hardly anyone, including Bedford's inhabitants, had the slightest idea as to the dominion of the Panacea Society. Apart from its spiritual treasures, the group reportedly has assets worth millions of pounds, including at least 15 houses in Albany Road, which is on one side of the Temple, and four in Newnham Road at the rear, thus forming a block which totally surrounds the ark Chapel.

Finally, to bring this report up to date, there were further strange happenings at Joanna's old retreat Rock Cottage. How it started is 'officially' unknown, but after being plagued by a variety of poltergeist manifestations, the picturesque Rock Cottage at the southern end of Blockley village, was devastated by fire in July 1971. Sadly, caretaker, Mrs A M Versey-Stitt, perished in the blaze. All that stood of Joanna Southcott's hide-away was a hollow shell, with its interior almost totally gutted. Remarkably however, working from the ruin, the 18th Century dwelling was later completely rebuilt by enthusiasts.

**Encounters** would like to thank Kenneth Parsons for this fascinating article, and should anyone wish to enquire about becoming a member of Kenneth's research group BEAMS, please could they phone him on 01234 740641, or write to him at: 7, North Drive, Shortstown, Bedford, Beds. MK42 0TL. Please enclose an S.A.E.



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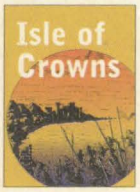


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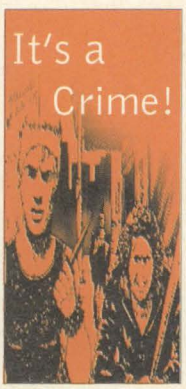


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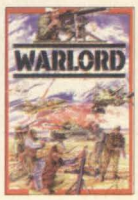


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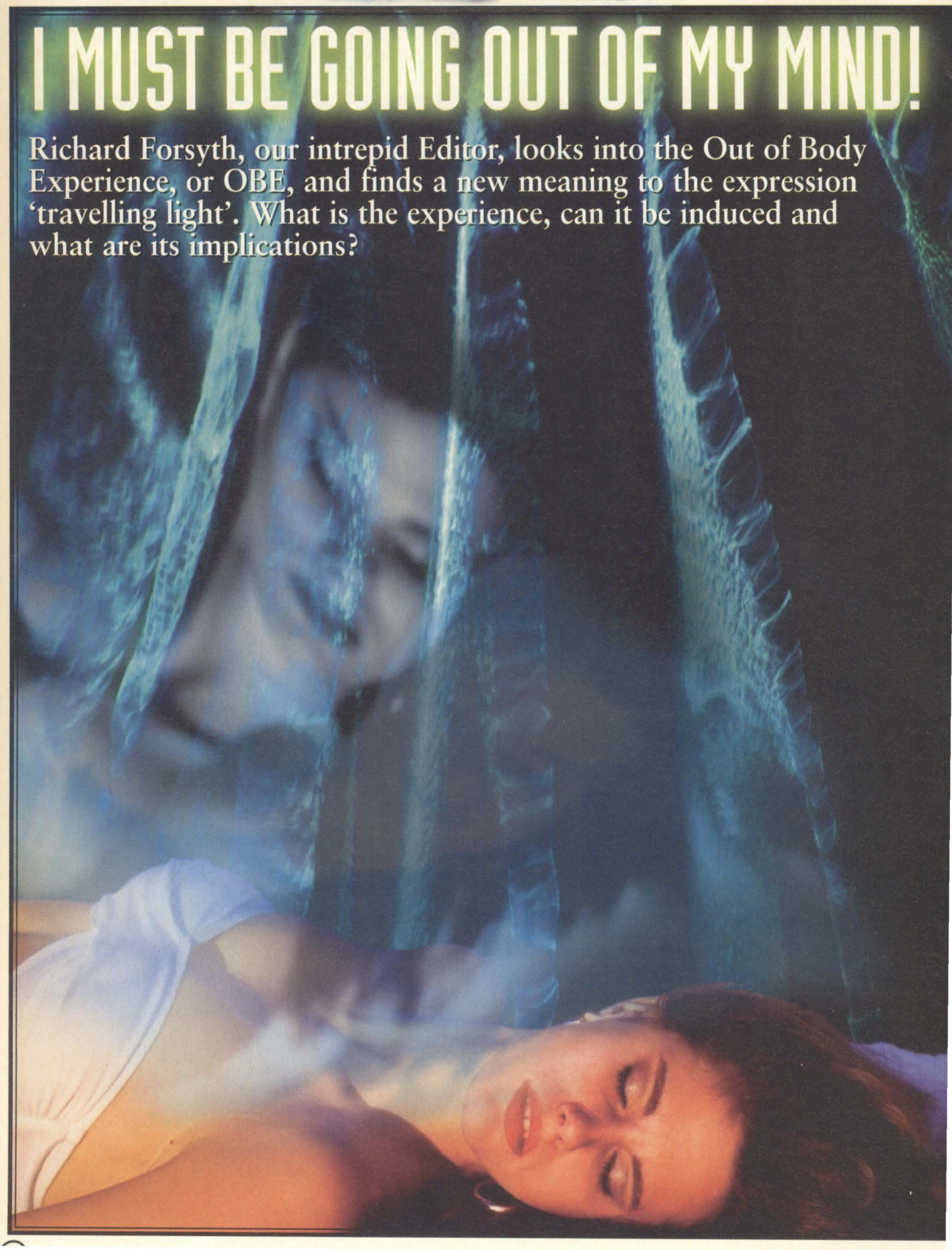
# I MUST BE GOING OUT OF MY MIND!

Richard Forsyth, our intrepid Editor, looks into the Out of Body Experience, or OBE, and finds a new meaning to the expression 'travelling light'. What is the experience, can it be induced and what are its implications?



# WATCHING YOURSELF DIE

To affirm the existence of the Out of Body Experience is to affirm the belief that you have a spiritual body that can be separated from your physical body. This has been a religious conviction that has stood for thousands of years. The question of spirit or soul is one that has never been resolved. It is a personal belief, suggesting that you, as a being, are more than the product of your physical attributes. Saying this, there have been so many personal accounts over the years that it is reasonable to assume that some form of OBE exists.

The Out of Body experience is a startling condition often reported by people who have endured near death experiences.

The two following accounts are from subjects interviewed in Raymond A. Moody's fascinating book *Life after Life*.

"I know I was lying on the bed there, but I could actually see the bed and the doctor working on me. I couldn't understand it, but I looked at my own body lying there on the bed. And I felt real bad when I looked at my body and saw how badly it was messed up."

Another subject who talked to Moody was surprised at seeing his body truly for the first time. "Boy, I sure didn't realise that I looked like that! You know, I'm only used to seeing myself in pictures or from the front in a mirror and both of those look flat. But all of a sudden there I, or my body, was and I could see it. I could definitely see it, full view, from about five feet away. It took me a few moments to recognise myself."

I managed to talk to a man who my ex-girlfriend knows, who had collapsed at work with a chronic lung condition. It was by chance he turned up at the pub after work a few days later and I asked him about his experience. I was intrigued although not surprised by his story. He stopped breathing for a while and those around him attempted resuscitation. He recalls floating in a position above his body and staring down at the frantic scene as someone tried to breathe air into his lungs before the ambulance arrived. He is very shy about his experience and certainly does not talk about it without prompting.

# OBE WITH ERNEST

In 1918 when Ernest Hemmingway was 19 years old, he was on the Italian Front serving with an army ambulance unit. A live shell exploded near him and he was momentarily blown out of his body into an OBE.

He told a friend, Guy Hickok, a newspaper man on the Daily Eagle in New York, "I felt my soul coming right out of my body like you'd pull a silk handkerchief out of a pocket by one corner." He was so affected by the experience that one of his characters in the novel *A Farewell To Arms* also experinces OBE, "I felt myself rush bodily out of myself and out and out and out and all the time bodily in the wind".

▲ Many people who experience OBE have reported being able to see parts of their body from a totally new perspective.

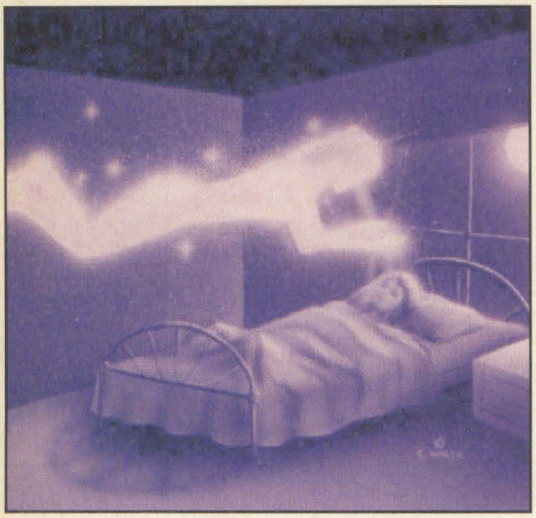
# ASTRAL PROJECTION

This is also a type of OBE which some subjects say they can induce with the power of thought.

The subject will find themselves at a point above their physical body, often able to move and feeling as if they have an identical spirit body with limbs etc. It is commonly the case that they can observe their own physical body below and the local environment it lies in.

I myself have had a minor Out of Body experience. It was not entirely unlike a dream state but different enough not to be qualified as a dream. It occurred in 1993. I awoke one night surprised to find I was facing the ceiling from a position just above where my head should have been. I could clearly see the room around me. I then found myself sliding over my body and literally through the duvet to a point at the end of the bed near my feet. I tried to scream but I cannot recall any sound coming out. Initially I felt like I was a long body but when I slid down through the duvet I felt heavier and more condensed, like a lump of consciousness. Not

"I know I was lying on the bed there, but I could actually see the bed and the doctor working on me. I couldn't understand it, but I looked at my own body lying there on the bed."

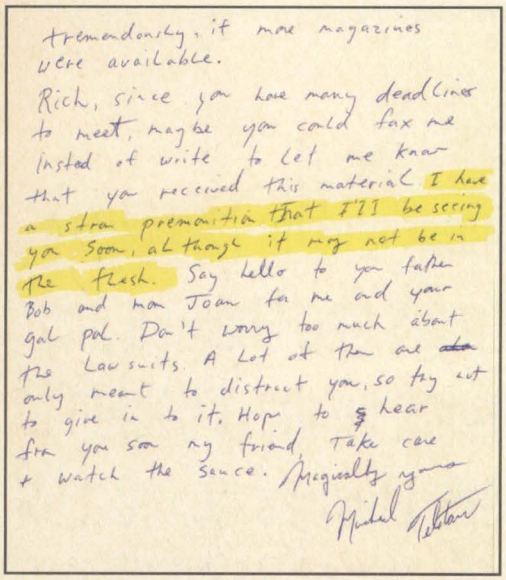


▲ OBEs often occur when the person is in a semi concious state, generally just before falling into a deep sleep.

being used to this unnatural sensation, I was terrified. I then found myself awake again, this time I was in my physical body. I have received enough mail to suggest this experience is fairly common place.

The OBE, when induced consciously, is often called 'Astral Projection'. It can occur when the brain is in a state of semi consciousness, in-between being wide awake and asleep. 'Theta' state is often thought to be the brain wave frequency allowing projection. This state is more common in children and can be the result of frustration. It occurs for a very brief time as a change in brain wave pattern, although practised Projectors claim to sustain the state while they are out of their body. The Theta point is the point where you are closest to falling into unconscious. Through mental concentration and a state of mind referred to by Keith Harary and Pamela Weintraub, as 'alert relaxation', the subject can project themselves out of their body and freely drift from location to location. Complete self awareness and total awareness of the surroundings, coupled with a will to project seems the premise for a successful OBE.

It is often the case that projectors glimpse a clear or luminous umbilical chord connecting their spiritual body to their physical body. It seems that the real body is still functioning as long as this connection is there. Reports conflict as to the location of this clear umbilical. Some claim it to be attached from the back of the head and others claim it to be from the centre of the body.



tremendously, if more magazines were available.

Rich, since you have many dead lines to meet, maybe you could fax me instead of write to let me know that you received this material I have a strong premonition that I'll be seeing you soon, although it may not be in the flesh. Say hello to your father Bob and mom Joan for me and your gal pal. Don't worry too much about the Lawsuits. A lot of them are only meant to distract you, so try not to give in to it. Hope to hear from you soon my friend. Take care & watch the Sauce. Regards your

Michael Telstarr

▲ Michael Telstarr's letter to Encounters Editor, Richard Forsyth, predicting a meeting between them, but 'not in the flesh'.

## REMOTE VIEWING

A technique actually acknowledged, funded and utilised by the CIA. Remote viewing is basically an OBE which can be induced while conscious. The remote viewer is given a place name or a location and they project themselves mentally into the location and explore it in real time. Ingo Swann, a former US Government spy has publically admitted using remote viewing when he was working undercover. He has also taught others to utilise the skill. The student of remote viewing techniques has to eventually breakdown the images he receives into texture, smell, taste and shape until a picture is built up. Although the success of teaching people to remote view is debatable, as is of course the phenomena itself, there are people who seem more adept and born to it than others, as with Mediums and other psychically skilled people.

## LUCID DREAMING

Lucid dreaming is a dream that you have total control over. Your awareness in your dream is at such a height that you can manipulate aspects of the dream world to your liking and participate in the dream as if you are awake. It is a myth that sleeping is a relatively inactive period for brain activity. Brain activity during sleep is very intense.

OBE seems to be loosely connected with lucid dreaming. This is sometimes disputed, but most researchers believe that by practising lucid dreaming you may find a route or your first step towards the OBE experience.

In Malaysia the Teminar tribe, part of the Senoi people, are profoundly influenced by the interpretation and manipulation of their dreams. They see dreams as fragments of a person's personality which consists of psychic forces. Enhancing and developing these psychic forces is part of their learning process.

Again, self awareness and amplified senses seem to be the key.

## PERMISSION GRANTED

To instigate an Out of Body experience the mind has to make a conscious decision to leave the body, almost like giving yourself permission. Psychic, Alex Tanous, has to say the words 'Mind, go to box' before he leaves his physical self. The box being an imagined point outside himself. He underwent experiments in New York for the American Society for Psychical Research

**In Malaysia the Teminar tribe, part of the Senoi people, are profoundly influenced by the interpretation and manipulation of their dreams.**

and described accurately, symbols in a distant room. Delicate polygraph equipment and sensing chambers picked up more than the usual amount of activity during the experiment.

## WE'LL MEET AGAIN...

Michael Telstarr featured in issue four of **Encounters**. He claims that he has mastered OBE to perfection and could even travel into space with his astral body. He is Canada's answer to Uri Geller. He recently wrote a letter personally addressed to me saying he would be meeting me soon, but not in the flesh! The arrival of this letter incidentally coincided with a course I am starting to induce OBE, which he is not aware of (he lives in Canada). Spooky! If anything happens, I guarentee you'll be the first to know.

## GUIDE TO PROJECTING

Actively projecting comes about purely from the power and influence of your own mind. To do it takes extreme mental preparation and self control. This guide does not guarantee an OBE but it suggests some preparations and gives you a direction from which you can begin. It consists mainly of concentration exercises which seem to aid projection. To have an OBE may take extreme patience but if it happens, what a reward!

**1.** Practise self awareness. Become acutely aware of how your body mentally feels. Relax in a warm room by yourself and imagine hands massaging you slowly, internally from your feet to you calves to the small of your back, over the shoulders and to your forehead. Concentrate on your own heart beat and explore all five of your senses and what they are sensing. Imagine a vertical line of energy in the centre of your body and feel the energy run from the bottom of it to the top. Breathe in a controlled relaxing manner.

**2.** Imagine seeing from a few feet in front of your actual position, and seeing yourself. Visualise and comprehend with all your senses being from a different vantage point.

**3.** Let your body feel heavy and your mind feel light, imagine it rising out of your head.

**4.** When you go to bed, imagine floating above yourself as you drift into sleep.

**5.** First successful projections should be very local, perhaps in the room or just outside the room. It is better to walk before you run. Sometimes trying too hard to explore will result in waking too soon. A clicking sound seems to accompany the passage out of body so do not be alarmed if you experience this. It seems to be part and parcel of the transition process. Gravity and accepted physical laws seem to have little effect, possibly because of the lack of mass, time and space.

▲ As featured in issue four of Encounters, Michael Telstarr believes he can travel anywhere by Astral Projection.

## BENEFITS OF OBE

The benefits are that the experience will heighten your self awareness and your awareness of the environment. OBE will also give you the chance to embark on adventures beyond your wildest dreams. Imagine distance being no object. People who experience OBE feel completely refreshed and relaxed when they return to their bodies.

**The OBE, when induced consciously, is often called 'Astral Projection'. It can occur when the brain is in a state of semi consciousness, in-between being wide awake and asleep.**

## SOURCES:


INTO THE UNKNOWN, READERS DIGEST.
LIFE AFTER LIFE, BANTAM.
HAVE AN OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE IN 30 DAYS, THORSONS.

# COMPETITION WINNERS

## MOUSE MAT COMPETITION

**Winner:** Gary Potter, Lancashire. Gary's most inventive idea for a mouse mat would be to use it as a camping mattress for a very small honeymooning couple.

## TAROT COMPETITION

**1st Prize:** J. Perfect, Surrey.
**2nd Prize:** W. Sharpe, Leicestershire.
**3rd Prize:** T. Sale, Birmingham.

## BANDAI COMPETITION

**1st Prize:** A. Richmond, Salisbury.
**2nd Prize:** S. Gutteridge, Northampton.
**3rd Prize:** H. Sutton, North London.
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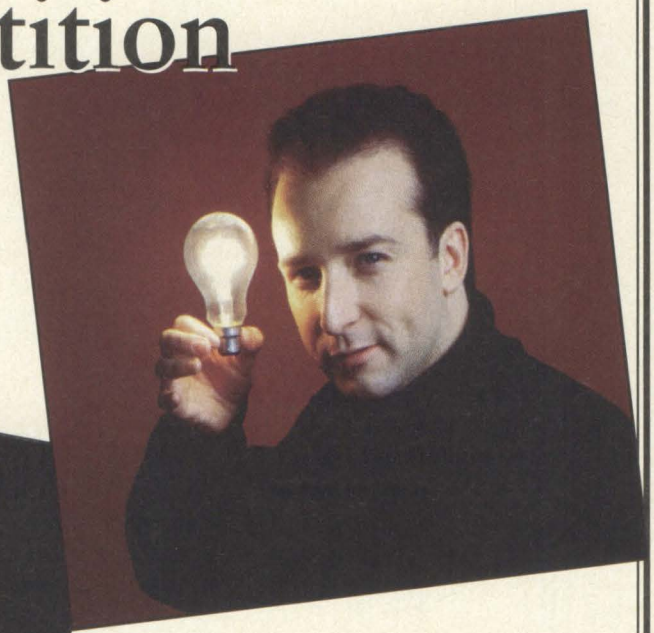
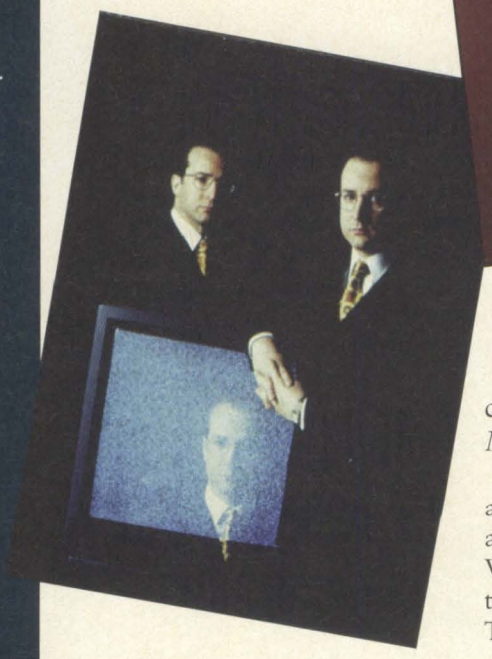
N. Stephenson, Chelmsford.

# McKenna's PARANORMAL Competition





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This is a spin off from the highly successful television series of the same name, but whether you caught the programmes or not, the video is well worth a place in your collection.

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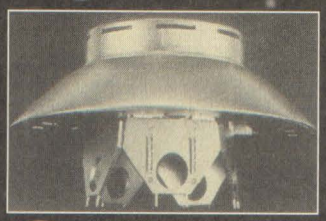

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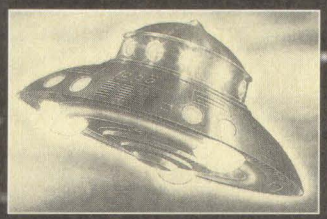

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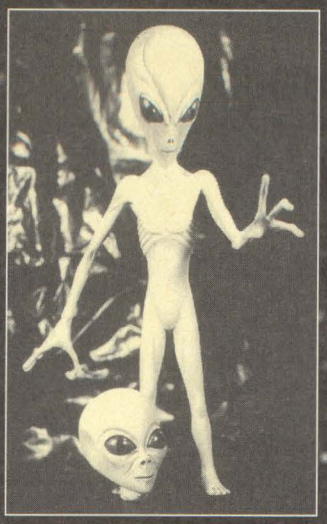

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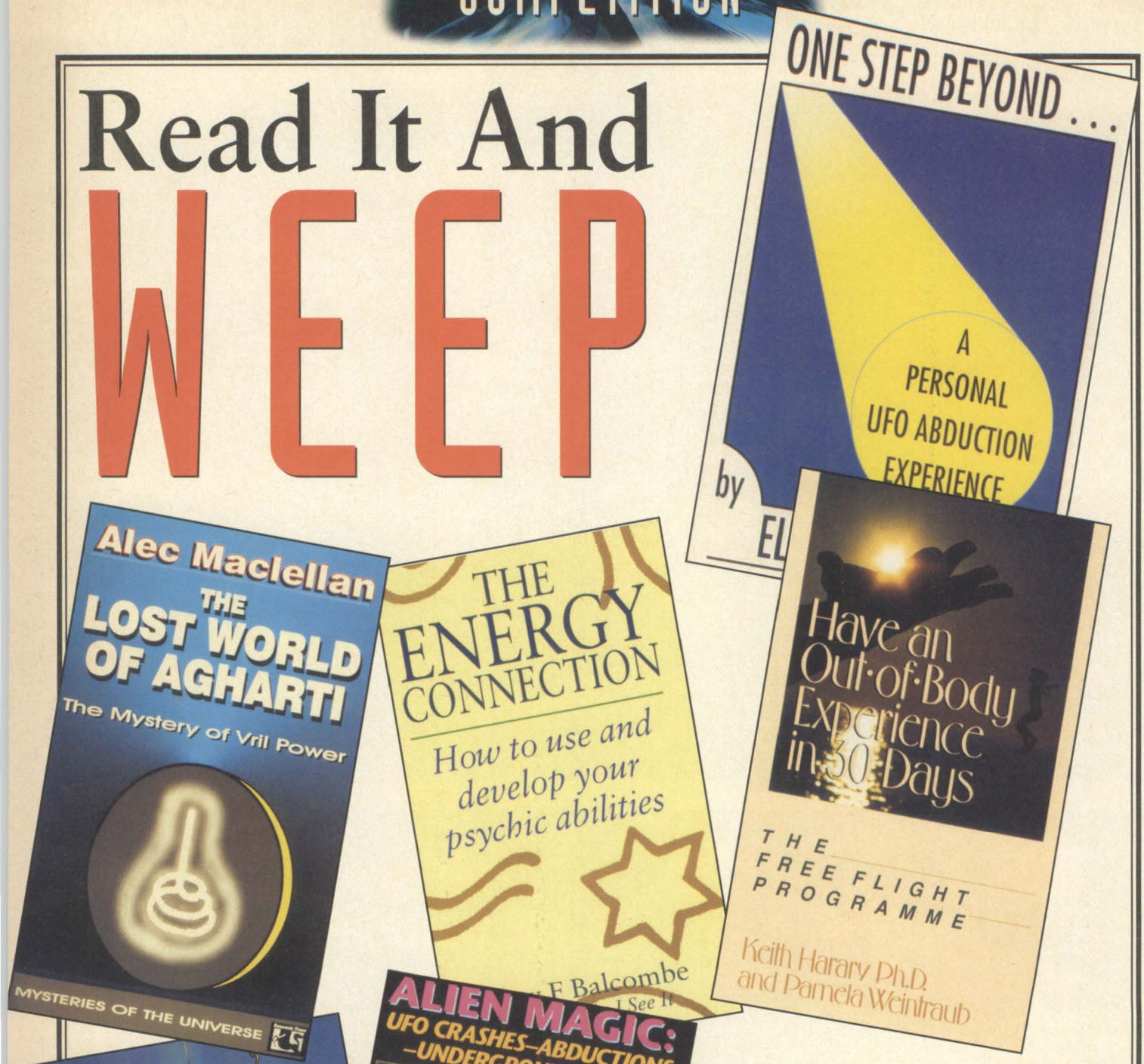
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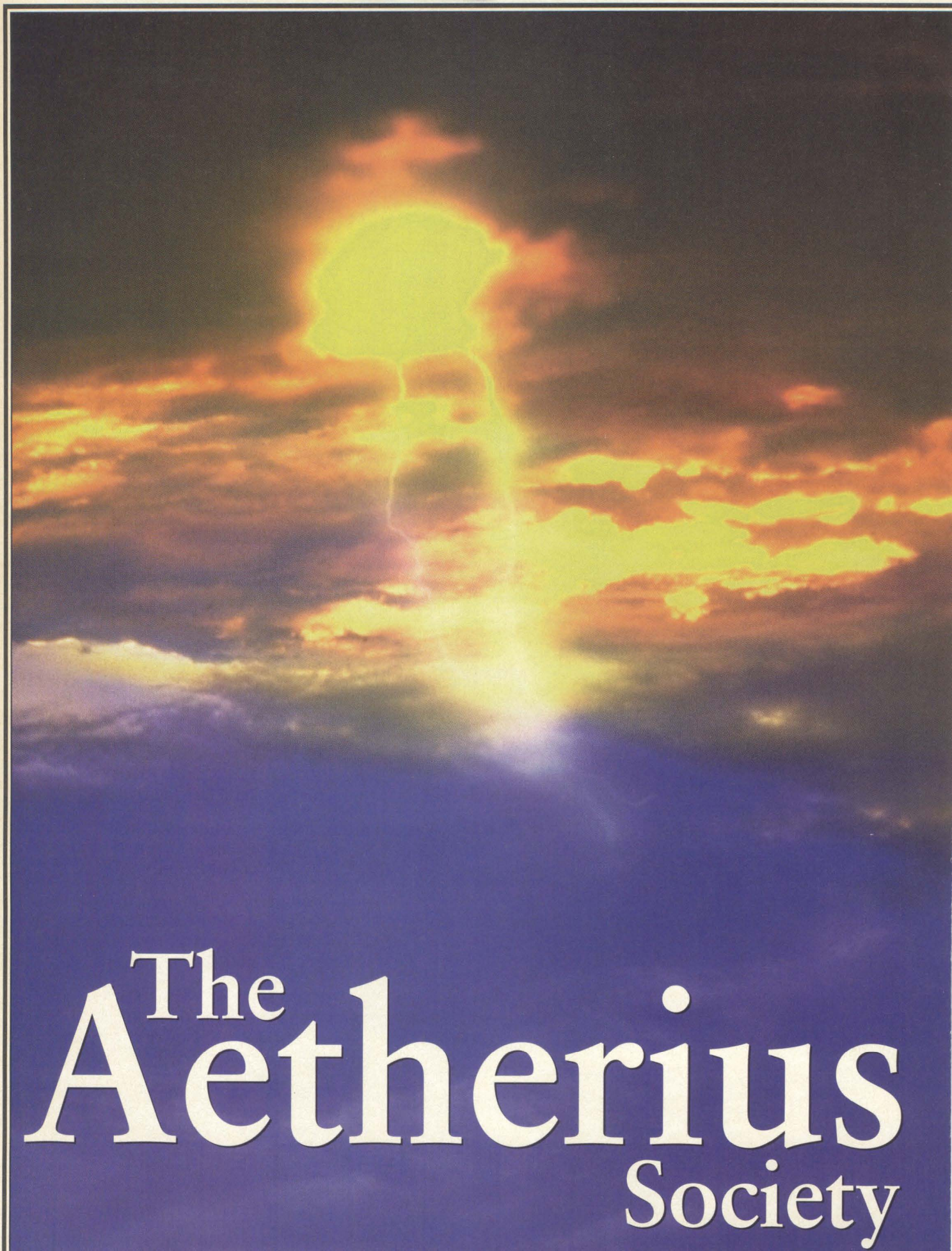
COSMIC CONCEPTS



# The Aetherius Society

The Aetherius Society claims on its promotional pamphlet to be 'dedicated to the salvation and enlightenment of mankind'. At first you may think the society has overtones of a religious cult but the group has a unique philosophy and understanding. The society has grown from a single man into a UFO group unlike any other.

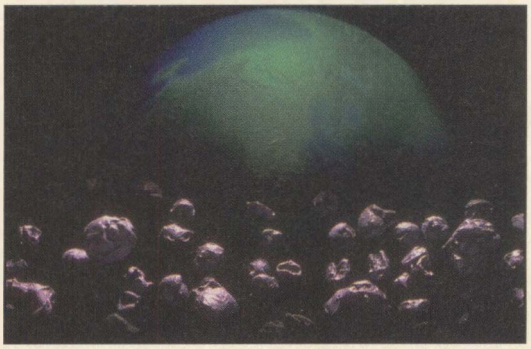
# COSMIC CONNECTION

The Aetherius Society connects science, Yoga, the theology of all major religions and the knowledge of radionics, and stirs it up in a mystical hot pot for its members who span the entire planet. The society was founded by Sir George King in 1954. Previously he had dedicated himself to an intense routine of daily Yoga for ten years whilst also holding down an ordinary job.

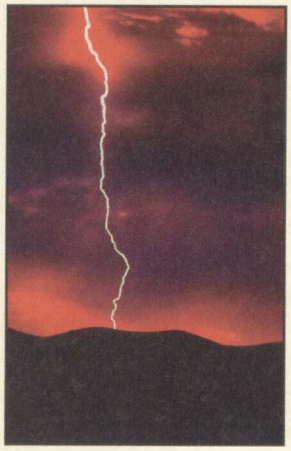
The Aetherius society's most controversial claim is that they are under the direction of spiritual, highly evolved ETs, known as 'The Cosmic Masters'. Sir George claims that he was taught by a great man, an advanced Master from the East, how to telepathically communicate with the so-called Cosmic Masters. This process involved Sir George entering into a state which he describes as the 'Positive Yogic Trance'. He feels he has been given a message from these Beings to give to Earth. He also believes that you don't have to be of any religious doctrination to do what he has done and receive ET messages.

The following interview is with the PR spokesman for the Aetherius Society, Christopher Perry. He talks frankly about the society and what it believes. His own motivation is that the society explains a purpose beyond the daily nine 'till five routine, that makes sense to him and a lot of people. Read on and see if it make sense to you.

**• What is the society about?**
The whole essence of the Aetherius Society is that it was established to be a channel of communication for what we would call the extraterrestrial mind, to communicate to mankind in these latter days. This has been done through their selected primary- terrestrial, mental channel, who is the founder President of the Aetherius Society, Sir George King. He received his first contact on May 8th, 1964 and this stated that he was to prepare himself, for he was to become the voice for interplanetary parliament.



At that time, that didn't mean a thing to him whatsoever. Nothing at all. He had never heard of it and he didn't know what it entailed but the one thing he did know for certain was that at that time he was, and I use the word strictly, a 'Master' of Yoga. He also knew that he did receive a communication and that he was not being deceived.



**• So he didn't actively search for the contact?**
No, not at all. Can I say at this juncture that although he was selected as the primary terrestrial channel, he is not and he never claims that he is the only channel. What we would say is that because these messages, communications and teachings have been given, they obviously wish to present them to mankind, so it is practical and reasonable that they give them through one source. That way, there is no confusion, there are no contradictions. So they have given these communications through Sir George King for the benefit of mankind.

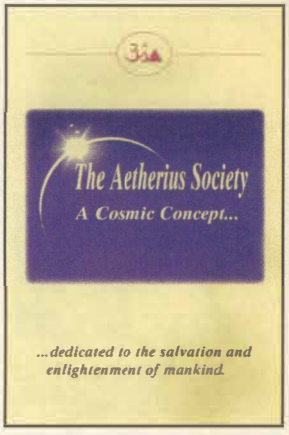
**• You say in your pamphlet that the Aetherius Society publishes the dates of each Magnetisation Period so that people can tune into and utilise this extra Spiritual Energy. Could you explain this?**
These are what we call the 'spiritual push dates'. There is a specialist craft, called the 'third satellite', that comes into orbit at these predetermined times and anybody who is doing something for somebody else with an unselfish motive, will have their actions enhanced by a factor of three thousand times.

**• How do you know the exact dates? Is it through Sir George?**
Yes, these dates have been given in advance for the next thousand years.

**• When is the next Magnetisation period?**
It's April the 18th to May 23rd.

**• And this applies to everyone, regardless?**
Yes, whether they have heard of the Aetherius Society or not, are religious or not religious.

**It was established to be a channel of communication for what we would call the extraterrestrial mind.**




▲ The Aetherius Society produces its own pamphlets promoting the idea of a cosmic religion.

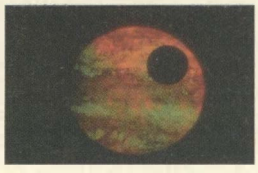
▲ Operation Prayer Power. Once a week members store energy produced by intensive prayer inside a special radionic Battery.

**• So tell me more about Sir George King and his contact.**
He is their primary selected terrestrial source. He is not the only source. Having said that, he is without question the longest standing terrestrial source. That's been independently researched.

**• Would it not be better to contact everyone, from an extraterrestrial's point of view?**
No. Simply because 'they' are very efficient in everything that they do, they try and make it count. So it is more effective for them to select someone who would be a good channel, as George King would be. Firstly, because he has a lot of experience, even before the first communication came through, he was a Master of Yoga in his own right. He can precipitate the highest form of Yoga trance possible to Man.

**• So where do the extraterrestrials originate from?**
We believe that all the planets in our solar system are inhabited, but not on the physical level because these beings are not only technologically more advanced than we are, they are spiritually more advanced, so just as all the 'other' realms on this Earth are inhabited, so are those on other planets in our solar system. They live on a higher vibratory level. The people who live on Mars for instance do not need to live on the equivalent of the physical level. If we go to Mars and walk across the surface, we can walk for miles and not meet anything. They are living on a totally different level of vibration.

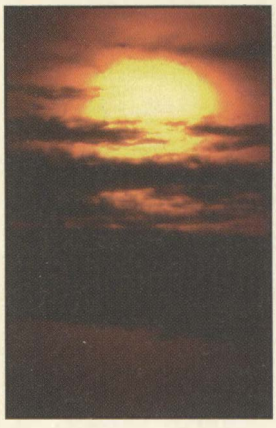
The Egyptians wrote of gods coming down from the heavens in their shining vehicles and the Bible mentions the Star of Bethlehem.



**• So you are saying the home of these aliens is a Spirit World?**
Yes. This explains why UFOs appear. They are interchanging their levels of vibrations. You look at a craft and then it is suddenly gone, it has slipped into our dimension and slipped out. Another example is when these craft appear on photographs when people say they never saw the object when taking the photograph. We have got a photograph which was taken by a bank official. He was taking a picture of a sunset, it was his hobby, and when the photograph was developed there was a picture of a scout craft. The level of vibrations to his eye could not pick it up but his camera could. He didn't see it at all.

**• So you have a class system for the different type of space craft? Are these scout craft manned?**
Yes. The scouts can hold two to five members and it is a small craft which will operate within the gravitational field of the planet. These scout craft will be carried by mother ships. These are usually seen as being long cigar shaped craft. The equivalent from a terrestrial level would be of an aircraft carrier. They send the mother craft throughout the solar system or to other worlds throughout the galaxy and they will be carrying the individual scout craft.

**• So are you saying that all the races have the same technology and craft?**
They use the same technology in terms of extraterrestrial craft. Yes, they do. Their level of evolution does vary. In terms of the solar system, the Earth and the people on it are kindergarten level and the others are senior classes, until you get to say, university level, which is the planet Saturn.



One of the reasons why the extra terrestrials use craft when they appear in the skies of this Earth is literally to create evidence to prove that they are there and they have been doing this right the way through all of our history. They have been reported not only in the Bible, but in other texts as well. In Sanskrit texts there are reports of vessels flashing through aerial spaces, the Egyptians wrote of gods coming down from the heavens in their shining vehicles and the Bible mentions the Star of Bethlehem. All these sources are religious but they have all referred to celestial vehicles, however they termed them at that time.

If the Cosmic Masters wish to appear and to be physically seen they would manifest in a form which was recognised and identifiable by us, so this would logically be humanoid form.

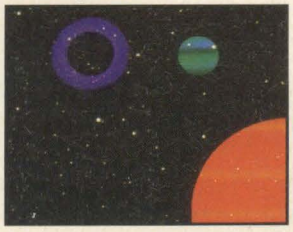
We believe that we have been on this Earth for some eighteen million years. We also believe that we have been helped by the Beings and if we think on a logical basis, if we say that they exist, they are therefore technologically advanced compared to us. Having said that, if they at any time wanted to be belligerent or take us out, they could have done at any point in history, right up to today. There is nothing we could do about it. But, we believe that there are many worlds throughout this galaxy which are inhabited. This system of planets is policed as far as we are concerned and none of the other Beings that come from other planets are allowed to harm us.

**• Do you think the world is heading in a specific direction and is the turn of the Millennium significant?**
We are moving out of the Piscian age, through the Aquarian age. One of the aspects of the Aquarian age is that of brotherhood and this is beginning to manifest, rather in a stumbling way, it has its successes and its failures. We are talking about organisations like the League of Nations, the United Nations, NATO, the EEC, BandAid,

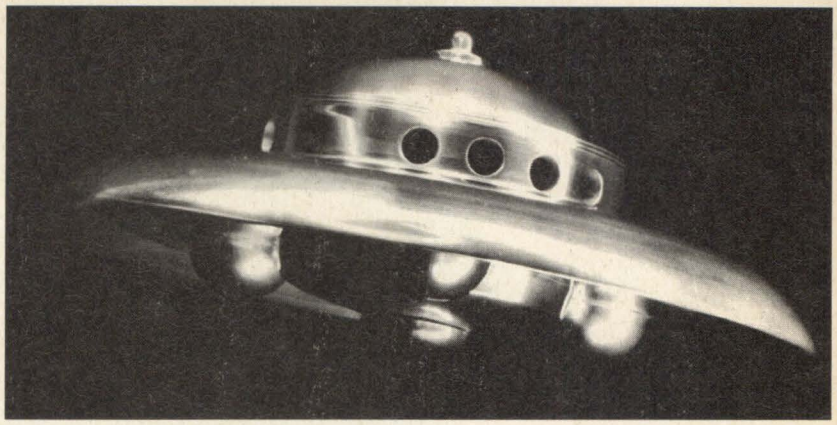
The National Health Service and the World Wildlife Fund. There is a greater increase in and understanding of the interaction between ourselves and nature. You may be surprised by me mentioning the EEC, it being a financial set up and yes, it is, it is a material world, but never the less it is an attempt to unify things at that level.

There is a coming together of the incoming spirit of the Aquarian age. We also believe that the Earth we live on is a living breathing Being. We believe that she has voluntarily supported us to her definite detriment for these eighteen million years that we as a race have been here. Initially we came from another planet from this solar system, called Maldeck. We developed atomic science and atomic weaponry and we literally blew the planet to smithereens and it is now the asteroid belt.

Life is continuous, so Mankind, us, we, have to go somewhere else to continue our life and this Earth volunteered to take us on. Now, we believe that she, the Earth, in terms of evolution is far more advanced than we are. She supports all the life. She supports the mineral kingdom, the vegetable kingdom, the animal kingdom. It is our ignorance that means we don't appreciate her compassion, We believe that she also has her own spiritual evolutionary program. Being finite, she was not allowed to hold up her evolution any longer in this solar system by the law of Karma, so on July 8th 1964, and I know that is a specific date, she was given her primary initiation. That means that she will gradually have to manifest the energy that has been given to her which is why the seasons are beginning to change, why vibrations are gradually beginning to speed up, why the ionosphere is gradually being demolished and she will be going forward into her own new age. There will be two factors to this. We do believe, as has been much foretold, that there will be another Master who will come to this planet. Masters have come to this planet right the way through history, Buddha and Jesus for instance. They were born into Mankind, developed themselves and gave help, guidance and teaching; they gave us the universal law as it stands and even if necessary, gave their lives for us. We believe that when the next Master comes, he will come with his full powers, he will not be born into Mankind. He will come as an adult and he will come with his full powers and we believe that in Biblical terms he will bring about the sorting of the 'wheat from the chaff'.



What it means is that there will be this finite coming and it will still be up to us whether we acknowledge him and go with him or if we are apathetic, or even whether we take this man out of existence. Our actions will determine whether we remove ourselves from this planet. It will be our decision. If we do, we will go on to live on another planet in the solar system, because life is continuous.



▲ A model of a flying saucer made to exact specifications confirmed by Sir George King after a physical contact.

• **Have you got any idea what sort of time this Master will come?**

No, but we do not believe that it will be very long. The future is not fixed. The quicker that Mankind accepts these things and starts working towards them, the better and the sooner he will be able to come. Having said that, the Earth may not delay her evolution for very much longer and the changes have already started. We believe this is why there is such an increase in flying saucer sightings.

## CONCLUSION

As you can see, the Aetherius Society have a very alternative way of looking at things. Some of their claims may never be verified and perhaps their beliefs are so controversial that it is doubtful that the masses would accept them, but if a guy with supernatural powers ever taps you on the shoulder and claims to be a Cosmic Master, then it just might be a plan to listen to what he has to say.

**There is a coming together of the incoming spirit of the Aquarian age. We also believe that the Earth we live on is a living breathing Being.**

▲ Sir George King, President of The Aetherius Society.

# MAKING CONTACT

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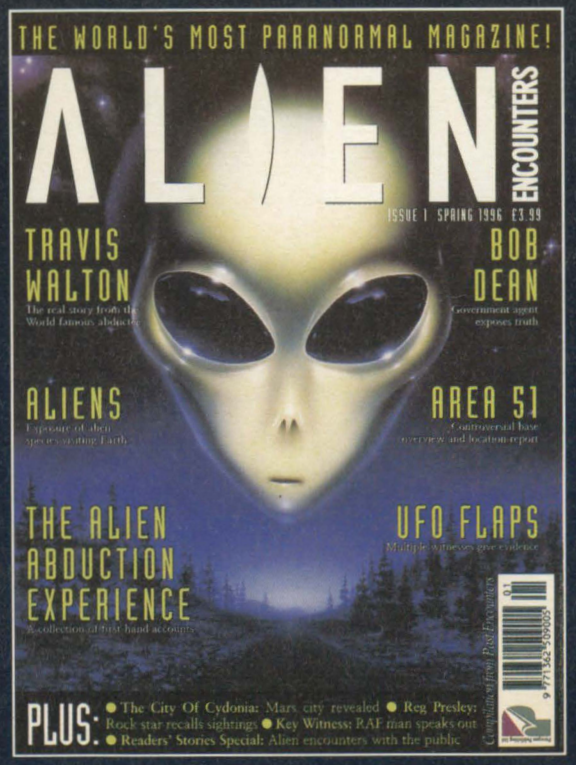
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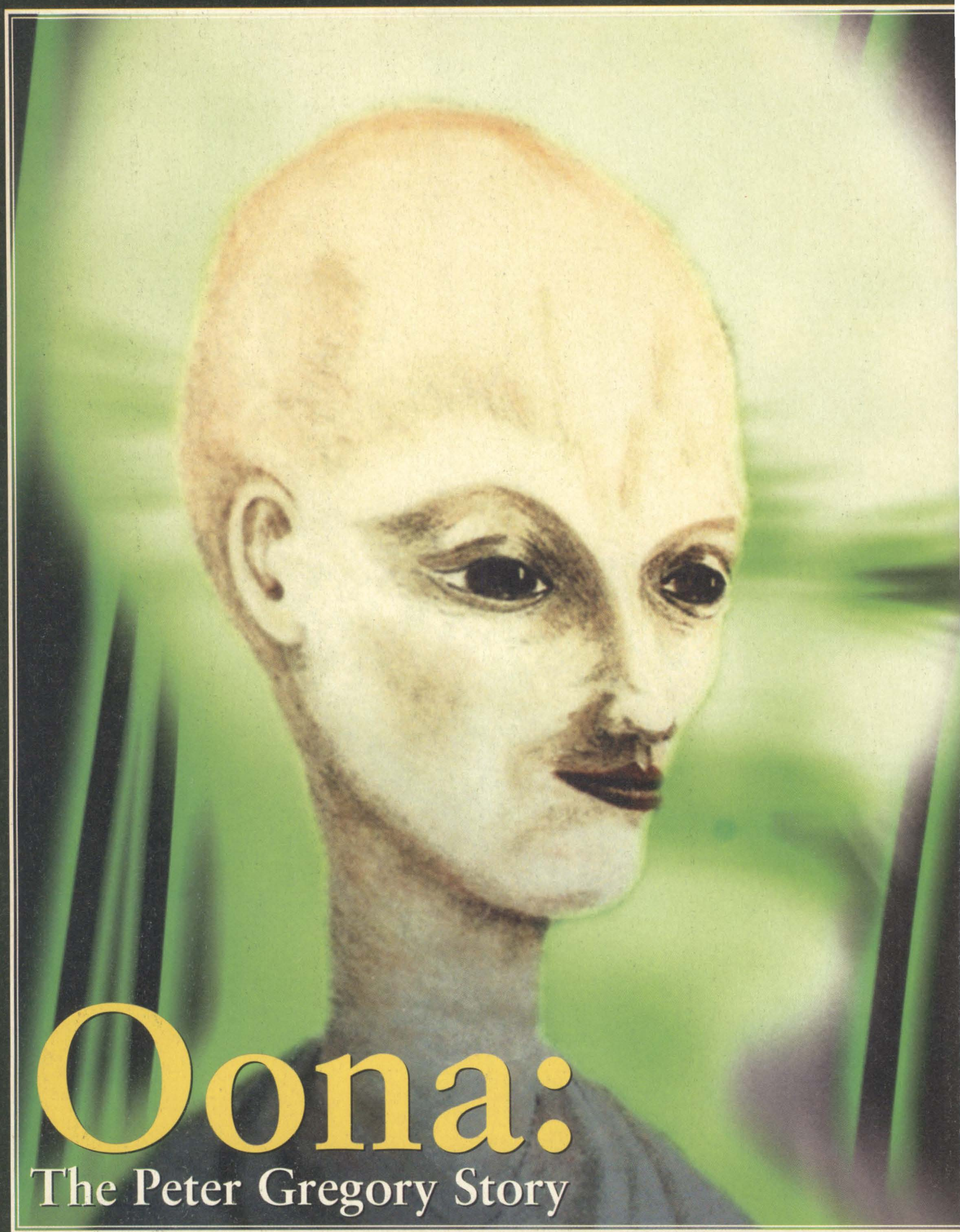


# Oona:
## The Peter Gregory Story

Nothing previously published could have prepared you for what you are about to read.
This is the story of one man's personal crusade to bring his findings to the general public. For all his efforts he has been derided, accosted in the streets of his home town and slandered for his claims of alien contact and telepathic links with a hybrid alien by the name of Oona.
So in true tradition, Encounters gives the man a chance to talk and present his story, and we will let you judge for yourselves.

## PETER'S STORY: AN INTRODUCTION

Peter Gregory is already a well respected psychic and that strange occurrences should happen to him, should not come as much of a surprise. But I do not believe that even Peter was prepared for the intensity of his experiences or the furore that was to follow.

After Peter's initial encounters there followed a series of startling UFO sightings in and around his locality. So much so, that Peter became somewhat of a celebrity in his home town, and news of his amazing visitations soon spread to America. In August 1994, Andrew Rothstein interviewed and filmed Peter for the now famous *Sightings* programme, shown on Sky.

Before any of these events there had been a lot of psychic phenomena and electrical interference in Peter's house. Radios turned themselves on, televisions changed channels, a baby's pram span around on its own and dark figures were seen on the stairs by Peter's wife. The same figure, that of a woman, was also seen in other parts of the house. Perhaps the most dramatic of all the occurrences was the two glass tumblers that exploded with such force that glass was blown 15 feet from the kitchen into the living room. The glass particles were so small that it looked like a thin covering of dust on the carpets and furniture. The glasses had been standing empty on top of a cabinet and had not been exposed to either extreme heat or cold. All that was left was a small portion of the base, which on examination showed signs of being fused together by intense heat or pressure.

Strange noises were also recorded on an audio tape late one night in 1992, the exact date is unknown. This recording was made on a voice activated tape recorder which had been left on the stairs all night.

Could these strange noises and psychical disturbances have a direct connection with the UFO phenomena that had been occurring since that time? Peter certainly believes this to be the case, and he is not alone in that belief. It is a widely growing theory that all psychic phenomena and UFO encounters have a similar background and are linked in some, as yet unknown, way.

Peter has since moved house but to this day the experiences are still ongoing and he has now learnt to live with this remarkable situation. He had previously approached BUFORA, during Jenny Randles's days with the organisation, at which time they studied evidence including some video footage and claimed the case to be genuine and an ongoing investigation ensued. The outcome was that the footage could possibly be that of a UFO.

We decided to let Peter tell his own story because it is so unusual.

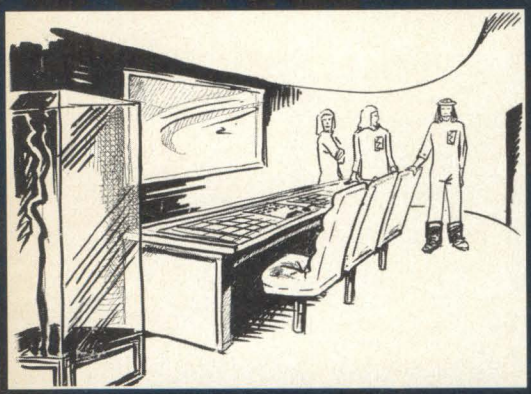
## THE FIRST ENCOUNTER

My first 'vision', for that's what it was, began one night in April 1993. This I am convinced was brought about by a sighting of a strange object the previous evening. A glowing ball appeared outside one of the upstairs windows at 2.30am. I got up from my bed to use the upstairs toilet and then observed this sphere (about the size of a football) from the open window. It was extremely bright and was in my sight for approximately four seconds. Then it moved silently past and flew off disappearing over the top of a small wooden hut on the sea front. As I am disabled and cannot walk very well, my wife was waiting on the upstairs landing ready to help me back to bed, she saw nothing. She was however, aware that I was considerably flustered, excited and bemused at what I had seen.

After getting back into bed I felt a burning sensation in my temple followed a few minutes later by a tingling headache. With my eyes closed I could still see the glowing, its outline vividly etched on my retina. It was well over an hour before I managed to fall asleep again.

**It was extremely bright and was in my sight for approximately four seconds. Then it moved silently past**

## THE SECOND ENCOUNTER



▲ Peter watched the 'beings' as they stood around a large monitor showing the Earth in a total state of decay.

It was 17th April, 1993. After retiring to bed I soon fell into a deep sleep and some time later my vision began. I opened my eyes and found myself inside what appeared to be a control room of some sort, in an enormous flying machine. I knew we were in flight because I could feel the movement beneath my feet, it was accompanied by a loud humming sound coming from somewhere far below me. The room was ablaze with light, a blue fluorescent haze pressed into every corner. It pulsed with a strange hypnotic rhythm, just like a heartbeat. I felt it inside my head beating in time with my own heart. The light grew brighter and brighter with every second, bathing me in its radiance. I was suspended in the centre of a blue void, floating aimlessly on a gentle tranquil sea. My conscious self was lost in the unimaginable beauty of this unexplored domain. Very gradually I experienced a complete inner peace, the like I had never known before. I felt myself sinking slowly down and down into what looked like a huge whirlpool of colours. They flickered and danced before my eyes in a never ending display of hues and changing patterns. I didn't feel any fear or apprehension, only a feeling of utter contentment. Just how long I was in this state I cannot tell but after what seemed like an eternity, the blue haze suddenly and without warning disappeared. With a terrible jerk I was instantly catapulted back onto the deck of the ship, a little confused and very unsteady. Fortunately the effects didn't last very long and I was soon able to re-orientate myself. At last I was able to see clearly for the first time.

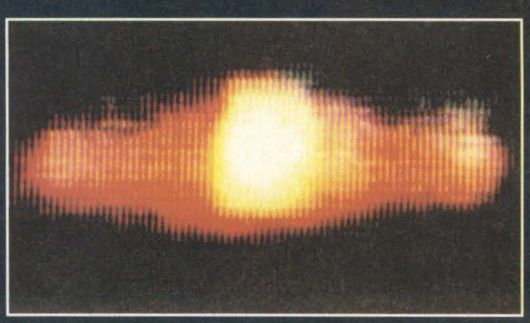
The room as far as I was able to determine, was oval shaped, and blue throughout. There was a large control console standing in the centre of the cabin, about ten feet long and four feet high. It had a mass of weird coloured lights on its top, some of which were flashing in a sort of sequence. There were three thickly padded seats positioned in front of the console. On the left of this was what I can only describe as an illuminated cubicle about six feet in height. On the right was nothing but a hatch or doorway. About fifteen feet in front of me I could see three human figures, they were standing by a large viewing monitor watching a transmission of some description. They seemed totally unaware of my presence. I was strangely drawn towards the figures as if in some way there was a special bond between us but I didn't quite know what it was.

The crew members were busy pointing out items of interest on the screen until eventually the transmission came to an end. They were talking to each other in what sounded very like English but I wasn't close enough to hear what they were saying. I decided to walk slowly and hesitantly towards them, feeling a little nervous and unsure of myself.

If I had expected to see beautiful graceful creatures with the wisdom and intellect of countless ages I would have been more than a little disappointed. Instead, three very ordinary (if colourful) looking individuals stood before me. The leader was slightly taller than his two companions, being approximately six feet in height and very slender. Like the others, his head was about the same size as my own, his hair was shoulder length and reddish brown in colour. Around his forehead was a broad silver band with two small static lights on each side. His eyes were a piercing blue and again of a normal size, as were his nose and ears. His mouth was long, there was a slight blue tinge over his thin lips and his whole complexion has a bronzed appearance much like sun tan.

Although the being's features could not be described as handsome, his face was of a gentle nature with no hint of aggression at all. He was dressed in a grey uniform with a high collar and three-quarter length sleeves. His hands and arms were definitely human. I noticed that his fingers were very long, the odd thing about them being the complete absence of fingernails. On the index finger of his right hand, he appeared to be

The leader was slightly taller than his two companions, being approximately six feet in height and very slender. Like the others, his head was about the same size as my own, his hair was shoulder length and reddish brown in colour.



wearing an unusually large silver ring with what looked like an ancient hieroglyphic inscription. On the front of his uniform he had a small pouch type pocket with another insignia on it. It looked like a silver circle with the letter M or W on its side in the centre.

The other crew members were dressed more or less identically with the same colour uniforms and emblems. One of them had light brown hair, the other blond, both were male. They all wore the same type of boots, dark grey with a blue stripe across the front.

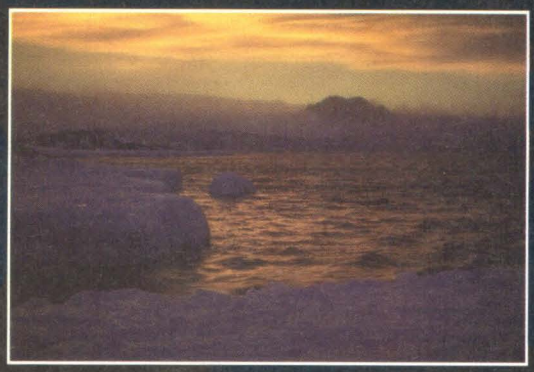
After taking it all in, I suddenly felt the urgent need to communicate with them, there were so many questions I needed to ask, so much I needed to say. I stretched out my hand to touch one of them, but found that my hand simply passed straight through them. I realised that I was a mere ghost, some kind of unseen phantom in their world, unable to touch or influence anything in their surroundings.

While I was watching, the viewing screen buzzed into life again. The crew were silent as they watched the clear images move across the screen. The clarity and sharpness of the third dimensional pictures seemed truly amazing. At the top of the viewer there is an on-screen display with the words 'YEAR 3600' on it.

I watched fascinated as the report of some great disaster unfolded before my eyes. The pictures flashed by in rapid succession almost too quickly for my senses to perceive. I have tried to piece together from my experience of that time, a record of all that I witnessed.

It started with a voice which came from somewhere within the room. It was describing some of the scenes that were flashing across the screens: "The Earth is no longer habitable, humans cannot survive on the surface. The air is unbreathable and pollution is so great that man has been forced at last to live underground in a vast artificial world. The sun still shines but only through a thick blanket of air pollution. The ozone layer has been destroyed and there is no protection from the ultra-violet radiation. Nothing moves in the world's rivers and oceans, they are lifeless, black, foul smelling swamps, no longer capable of sustaining the life that was so abundant within their depths two thousand years ago.

"All the Earth's known animals and birds are extinct, the first casualties in a long line stretching back as far as the beginning of the end, 2096. Because of the long term effect of carbon dioxide and many other environmentally harmful pollutants on the atmosphere in 2540 the great polar ice caps melted. Many coastal cities and towns throughout the world were destroyed by the terrible floods which occurred at that time. Millions of people perished and the whole face of the world was dramatically changed forever. Where there had been land, there was now sea, where there had been life, now there was only silence."

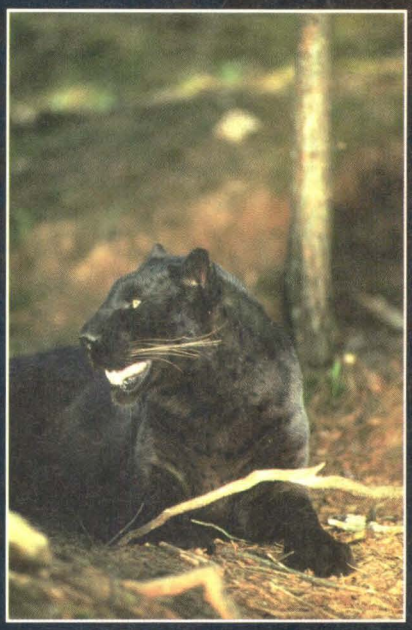


◀ Part of the 'slide-show' depicting the demise of Earth showed the Polar ice caps melting and the ensuing devastation caused by floods.

I remember watching, transfixed like a rabbit in the deadly stare of a snake, unable to move. The voice and pictures continued. The commentary reached the year 3600 and said there was no evidence of the once green and fertile land surviving. The pictures showed only a dark brown landscape with no signs of life or habitation, only piles of rubble littered the surface. According to the voice, Mankind's own greed and stupidity had erased the greatest civilisation that their world had ever known.

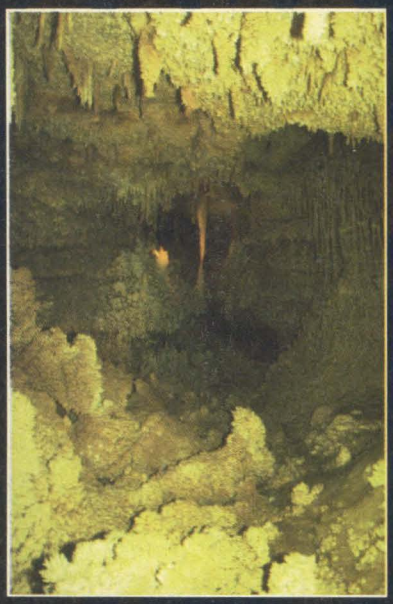
A still picture finally appeared on the screen, it was the now familiar emblem worn by all the beings. The voice continued, "because of Man's deadly legacy we also live in daily fear that our culture will one day crumble and fall in the same way. For we share the same Earth and ancestors, in that we are alike, in every other way, we are worlds apart."

The voice grew louder as its message reached a conclusion: "It must never happen again, the



▲ According to the alien beings, Man's greed had caused the destruction of not only our habitat, but that of our wildlife.

**"The Earth is no longer habitable, humans cannot survive on the surface. The air is unbreathable and pollution is so great that man has been forced at last to live underground."**



consequences are too horrendous to even contemplate."

The voice trailed away into the distance, the screen went suddenly blank. I stood there absolutely speechless. I can remember thinking that the bleak and desolate place I had just seen could not possibly be our Earth. Yet deep down I knew it was and I was seized with an overwhelming sense of panic and fear for its future.

At this point I became fully awake again, my heart thumping loudly in my chest, beads of cold sweat glistening on my face. My hands were really cold and clammy, and they were shaking uncontrollably. At the moment that I came round I had a real sense that the tragedy I had seen was very real and the memory of it would remain with me for the rest of my life. A great wave of sorrow flooded through me. I realised that I had been in some small unexplainable way, part of their world as well as my own, all in the same moment.

The usual tingling headache returned and even after two hours the images were still totally clear in my head. I think they were a lingering reminder of my unforgettable encounter, but I'm still not quite sure what the encounter was with. Maybe they were beings from another time, a dream, grand delusion or simply birth trauma? I don't really believe that it was any of these things, as far as I am concerned, my experience was much, much more – some kind of Grand Reality.

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▲ Just some of the publicity that Peter's sightings have led to.

## THE TALE OF OONA

In another out-of-body experience in June 1994, while on board an alien scout craft, Peter claims he met a young psychic hybrid female who he called Oona. Peter is still in contact with this being and is convinced she is communicating with him for some kind of higher purpose. He described her to **Encounters** and has said he will keep us updated about their meetings.

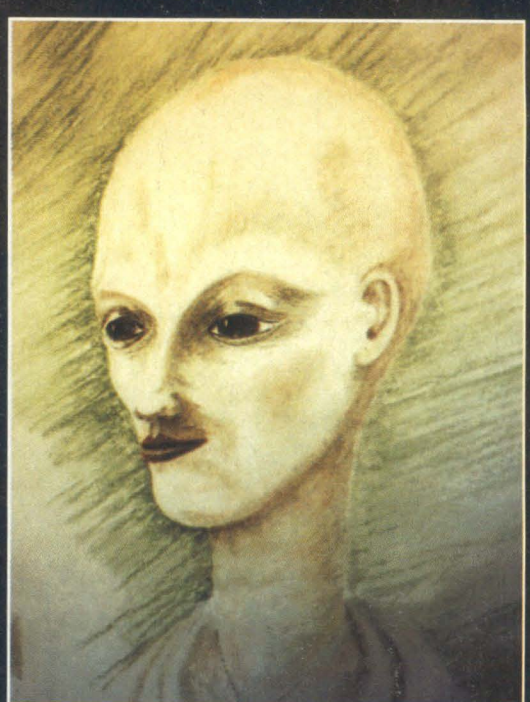
Oona is twenty three years old and was born on Earth as a direct result of alien genetic engineering in the early 1970s. She has spent her entire life at a secret alien base in Russia and has never seen her home world. She is four feet six inches in height, of slim build, with a slightly larger than normal head which is completely hairless. She has big dark almond shaped eyes, her complexion is not grey but whitish in appearance with a tinge of pink in the cheeks. She has small childlike ears and almost normal sized nose and mouth. Her hands and feet although tiny are definitely human.

When I saw her for the first time I realised there was something very special about her. To me she seemed to possess a spirituality that others of her race did not have or indeed understand.

Already I could feel a strong psychic bond developing between us which became obvious when she turned towards me and smiled.

Peter wrote to **Encounters** with his story and is well aware that people will not find it easy to believe. He writes that even he has problems finding the right words to explain what he has witnessed and only hopes that someone reading this will empathise and maybe be able to shed light on his experiences.

Oona is 23 years old and was born on Earth as a direct result of alien genetic engineering in the early 1970s. She has spent her entire life at a secret alien base in Russia.



▲ An artist's impression of the female hybrid Oona, who Peter says he feels a strong bonding with.

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# Readers

## ALIEN ABDUCTION

The letter you are about to read was sent to us by a gentleman who wishes his name to be withheld, he lives in Surrey. The detail within makes for a harrowing read, however these events do happen and quite often.

This is not something I can speak of lightly, God knows just thinking about it is painful enough. For years now I have had to live with the knowledge that I was the only one who knew the truth and that everyone else was laughing at me behind my back. I have had to live with all the snide references to ETs and some of my friends refer to me as the 'human X-File'. Well, hopefully you won't be quite so immature.

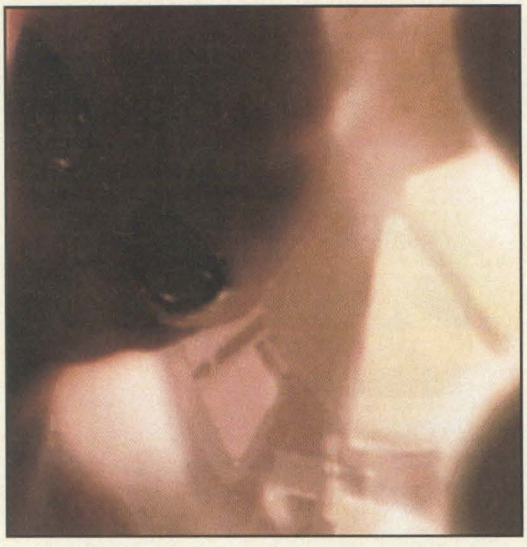
I am writing to you because I want to add my voice to the growing number of brave men and women who are finally admitting what happened to them. All I want is to have my story published by yourselves, not least because you are the first group who will take me seriously but because the visitations have finally finished.

I don't really remember the date that they first came, I think that's deliberate. I know it began when I moved to Epsom which was in 1981. I was only five at the time and if the incident had only happened once I would have thought of it as a bad dream. For years I did think it was just bad dreams, I had many of them. My parents became worried at my insistence that small grey men were looking at me through the windows, and I even spent some time with a psychiatrist who concluded that an over active imagination and an unhappy school life was to blame.

Fine, children soon learn to forget these things and move on but then 'they' returned.

It all began again in 1988 when I went to my secondary school. At first I thought it was because I was unhappy at school, just like the last series of visitations. But unlike the last time they actually took me away, rather than just peering through the curtains.

My abduction experiences are similar to other cases, I awake to find myself immersed in a blinding white light, or sometimes the light wakes me. I am then taken into their craft via some sort of beam. The most frightening part of it all is seeing yourself leave through the top of the



house. I have read that other people experience a sulphurous smell, something I can't admit to remembering but I do recall feeling dizzy with the sensation of a strong, pungent smell, more like detergent than sulphur.

I can't clearly recall any distinct experiments though I know they poked around inside me making me feel uncomfortable. They gave me injections which suppressed my fear, I think being afraid stimulates a hormone that frustrates their work. I know I was strapped down, I could feel something cold over my wrists and ankles. I also remember having a mask on my face and them using some sort of light pen, like the one doctors use to see into your throat with, except they shined it right into my eyes which was one of the most painful things I have ever known.

I say 'they' because they all looked the same, they were grey-blue with large black eyes and tall heads. I was told they symbolised my fear of teachers, but no teacher of mine ever took tissue samples from my thigh. Again my doctor said that this was a sub-conscious fear of being hurt or embarrassed in public. I told my parents who took me back to the doctor and I even told

# ' Stories AND SOCIAL OUTCASTS

my friends, but they laughed at me. Oddly, when they began teasing me, the aliens stopped taking me away.

The visitations had no pattern to them, they could take me once a week for a month, they could come at different times and differing days. They even came once when my parents were still awake, in the other room. I have also checked outside to find tracks or evidence after a visit and I once found four areas of burnt grass in a regular square in the garden.

I always felt that the aliens were very childish in a way, though not just physically. I got the clear impression that if I ever told anyone about them they would come back and do terrible things to me. The main reason I knew it was real and not a fantasy based on my school life was because they returned six years later.

The third time they came I was in no doubt of myself. It happened when I had left school and started my first job which went quite well. The aliens appeared taller this time and more violent, perhaps this was because I was now bigger and stronger. I was 18 and I found that the beings were physically much weaker than myself which is probably why they used the beams and probes.

They took me twice because I told them on the first occasion that I would be ready the next time and that I wasn't scared, although I was. I was planning to stay awake all night with something for protection, but you tend to chide yourself for being so simple and blame it all on your imagination, mainly as a denial of the truth. The last time they took me was the first time they had ever spoken. I remember it was on a wet Autumn night last year, though I don't know the exact date, I hate even to think about it. They took me like they usually did but I felt more peaceful. The lights were slightly less glaring than usual and they didn't do any of their usual prodding. I could only see them out of the corner of my eye but I heard them talking like insects, and then one apologised in a scratchy English tone. The alien told me, perhaps telepathically (I couldn't see their faces), that my time was over. I thought they were going to kill me but they meant that they would not be visiting again. They wanted one last thing – a sperm sample. I then lost consciousness only to reawaken some time in the early morning.

On each occasion all my clocks stopped and didn't start again. I also noticed an amazing ageing of the pot plants in my room. They had simply died completely, the soil being bone dry and cracked despite having been watered that day.

Many people think that when you are abducted you see the inside of the ship, you shake hands with the aliens and are able to remember it all. People want to read about amazing encounters and confrontations, but most cases, including mine, only involve bright lights, sensations of fear and pain, and annoying blanks of memory.

However, I also have two large lumps on my knee, accompanied by scars. I also have a scar on the inside of my right thigh and my front two teeth have been forced sideways, something that does not appear on old photos, and I can't remember any of it happening.

Some people have advised me to go to an hypnotist, but I don't want to, I don't want to remember. I am starting to do all right for myself now and I think your magazine gives me the chance to exorcise the past for the last time.

**Encounters** says: We have come up against constant criticism that our readers' stories are just that, nothing more than stories, so to set the record straight I would like to say categorically now that every story you read has been genuinely sent to us, we simply publish what the readers want to read, real life accounts of alien interaction. We do not sensationalise our stories and we print everything included within a reader's letter.

I always felt that the aliens were very childish in a way, though not just physically.

# The GOODY Bag

Feed your head with some great Sci-fi literature by entering this astounding competition. The following prizes are all being given away in one big bundle to the first jammy so-and-so who's postcard we pick out of a hat. The prize includes a selection of *Star Trek* comics, *Babylon 5* books and the giant *Aurum Complete Book of Science Fiction*, a fantastic prize in itself.

To win this bumper bundle, just answer this question:

## WHICH CLASSIC SCI-FI SERIES STARRED K9?

Send your answers on a postcard please to, **Encounters**, Paragon Publishing Ltd, Paragon House, St Peter's Road, Bournemouth, Dorset. BH1 2JS.

# Readers' Stories

## BEDROOM VISITOR ABDUCTIONS CONTINUE

I am writing because of the article in your magazine about bedroom visitations, I too have been experiencing these incidents since I was 17 years old, I am now 24 and it continues on a regular basis.

It begins in April and ends in September. August is the worst, it happens four times that month. Although I've encountered occasional visits in January, February and March.

I am also a UFO Investigator and have been for two years, I have never told anyone about this before, but the man from York gave me the courage to write to you. I thank him very much for that. You would have thought that investigating would give me the courage to open up to my colleagues but I just can't.

My first visit happened one January, it was the 21st and after midnight, my bedroom became very bright and I saw a black shape come through the wall, I was terrified at that moment. I then felt myself being pulled by my ankles. It was then that I felt my whole body becoming paralysed, I screamed but no sound came from me. I was fighting and suddenly found I couldn't breathe very well, which frightened me even more. I tried to scream again as something turned my head and I could hear a voice. I couldn't understand what it was saying, it was gibberish, but I calmed down immensely.

I remember another incident when I fought with them and freed myself from the paralysis. I knew I was winning, then a blue flash came towards me, I can only describe its effect as like an electric shock that went straight through my body. This light was aimed at my temple, on the left hand side of my head. I was wide awake and in pain but I couldn't see who was there, and to tell the truth I don't want to see them. I was shocked and couldn't move, I began to cry, as usual and whoever it was, spoke to me. I have heard the voice many times and have become so used to it that I now try to converse with it. I ask it what it wants, but I can't understand its reply.

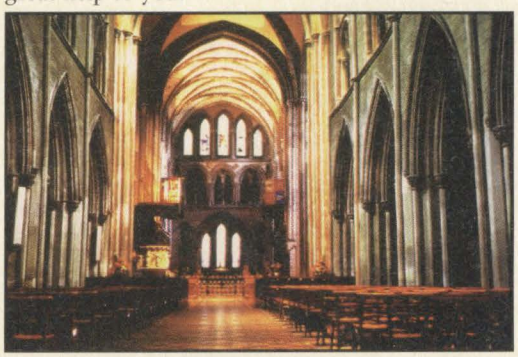
One night when they came, I grabbed my husband's arm and held on tightly, the force that pulls me away is so very strong. They didn't use their hands to pull me. There was more than one and I felt them grab my leg and arm on the left hand side of my body. I then felt a sinking feeling, similar to being in a lift.

I went to church and spoke to a priest about the visitations. I didn't give him too much detail. He believed it was the devil's servants trying to pull me down, but I wasn't convinced. I also mentioned to a doctor that I kept waking in the night and felt I couldn't move, he said it sounded like stress. I don't believe that either. My parents thought it was just bad dreams but if it were, how could I feel pain, I'm sure you can't feel pain when your dreaming? I often awoke with bruises on my body, especially on my thighs, I kept finding round bruises and had abdominal pains. I have also experienced severe shocks in my groin and found it difficult to walk.

It wasn't until March 1995 that I believed it to be something more than bad dreams, the devil or stress. I keep notes now, and write down everything that happens, I've stopped fighting with them and just say when they come to my room at night, 'good evening, how are you?' There's no point in fighting them, I can't win.

For anyone out there who's having similar experiences, don't keep it to yourself for as long as I have, even if you don't want anyone to know who you are, like I don't, you can phone someone or write to **Encounters**. It feels so good to get it off my chest, thank- you.

**Encounters** says: Although this is a very sad letter, the sender obviously feels much better for writing and we are pleased that she trusts us with her story. Unfortunately the authorities will not even acknowledge the existence of these 'bedroom visitors', so do not count on their help. The only person who can really help you, is you, and you can only do this by trying to understand what is happening to you. Please can you write to us again or at least telephone us so that we may talk at greater length, you will find this a great help to you.



The following letter was sent to us anonymously, by a concerned reader, who was just glad that she had written and told somebody of her problems. She is yet another in a long line of 'bedroom visitor abductees', and the phenomenon is on the increase, as our mailbag is testimony to. Once you have read this article, if you can sit down and say "that's happening to me", then it's time for you to write to us, in confidence, at the usual address.

# DOES BRITAIN HAVE A UFO COVER-UP?

**You could easily be mistaken for believing that Americans are the only ones lucky enough to be plagued by crashed saucers. Jonathon Dillon looks into Britain's UFO history and asks whether the British Government is simply more experienced at the old cover-up routine.**

The British Government holds the dubious honour of being the most secretive in the First World despite promises to be more open with the public. The USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, France, Denmark, Holland and a host of other countries have a Freedom of Information Act, which over the last few years has enabled investigators all over the world to explore thousands of hitherto classified documents and papers which refer to the UFO subject. By these governments' own admission, thousands more documents are being witheld in the 'interests of National Security' proving without doubt, that the subject is of great interest and seriousness to the world's elected leaders.

But our own Government keeps quiet about everything and the general public can only gain access to documentation released under terms of the 30, 75 or 100 year ruling. These papers flow from the Air Ministry, RAF and Ministry of Defence, and roughly amount to just a dozen already released files covering the period 1950 to1964. Now with the arrival of the Scott Report, the need for a British Freedom of Information Act is more than evident.

Sadly, Her Majesty's Government will be amongst the last to willingly confess to the fact that our airspace is being penetrated regularly, by unusual intelligently controlled devices, that are way beyond our cutting edge technology. However, there seems to have been a turnabout on the part of the authorities in recent years, with more and more credible military personnel, government officials and people in power coming forward to tell of their UFO experiences. Through the hard work of many UFO investigators across the country, it has been disclosed that several Ministry of Defence departments at Whitehall and the Armed Services have been, and continue to be, actively engaged in covert research into UFOs.

According to several informers, investigations have been carried out by the Royal Air Force, The Defence Intelligence Staff (DI55) and the Directorate of Scientific and Technical Intelligence. The DIS in particular, is a mixed organisation of serving officers and civillian research staff, scientific staff and linguists headed by the Chief of Defence Intelligence (CDI). This essential element of the Government's central intelligence machinery has several tasks to perform and it evaluates a range of studies. One of its most important duties is to concentrate on UFO reports. Basically, some reports are handled by the Provost and Security Police Special Investigators who are attached to the Flying Complaints Flight Base at RAF Rudloe Manor.

Stimulating news, which has been a long time coming, just came to light recently, with the shock admission by the MOD's Kerry Philpott, of Secretariat Air Staff 2a (the MOD UFO desk), that RAF Rudloe Manor was indeed a co-ordination point for reports of UFOs. This facility is known to be staffed by senior non-commissioned officers trained in numerous methods of special investigations. MI5 also works with Rudloe. Much of the collaboration relates to Rudloe's work in checking the credentials of RAF employees who work with classified data. They keep bulky files on RAF employees with "highly subversive" interests, Animal Rights, Nuclear Disarmament, Liberty etc. It is not known for certain whether or not the Security Services take on UFO matters , but according to an ex-MI5 employee I managed to interview, they do monitor the activities of individual UFO investigators and civilian UFO research groups.

The reports that come into the MOD are sent to DI55 who then forward them to the Director of Security and Provost Marshall (RAF) in London, who in turn will inform an infrastructure of other departments such as Air Force operations and Airborne early warning/ground environment. Some of these

organisations are amongst the most well developed military systems in the modern world.

Additional research has exposed an international liaison with other foreign intelligence authorities such as the American NSA, CIA, US Air Force Office of Special Investigation and the State Department's Office of Security Assistance, Science and Technology. The Defence Intelligence Liaison branch of the MOD (DIALL) provides this affiliation through the Government Communications Head Quarters.

Intense Government interest in the UFO topic doesn't end with the MOD's preoccupation. According to my source, the Home Office plays an operative role, sustaining teeming computer files on the subject. The MOD's Air Staff 2a has computerised UFO files, but most of them are pretty innocent. Nick Redfern, an outstanding Intelligence researcher, told me the database held by the Defence Intelligence Staff is meant to be explosive and refers to National Security Agency files (despite their being no such agency). My source told me there is a 'Main Computer' within the Home Office (F10 Division) which contains a database on several governmental issues, including UFOs. My contact also said that "only selective people can use the computer system in the matters of National Security". He continued, "I had a meeting with the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and at the end of it I asked him about the UFO predicament. Howard didn't say much about the subject and went very quiet." This publicity will certainly be unwelcome. The Police Force also takes in a reasonable portion of UFO reports. The UK Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary are regularly briefed to anticipate UFO sightings in the proximity of atomic energy installations. They are to take no other action but are to prepare a report, which they then send straight to their superiors.

Unquestionably, our own armed forces are lively UFO researchers. Numerous instances have come to light involving UFO/RAF dog fighting, crash retrieval ventures and clandestine research into Alien technology at places such as RAF Farnborough, where during the mid-50s, secret research was conducted into UFOs, according to several RAF sources. The Defence and Evaluation Research Agency have a facility at Farnborough, rumoured lately to be housing a downed UFO and Boeing 747 jumbo jet.

During the '70s there was an impressive UFO encounter in Minley Manor Woods, not far from Farnborough. My source, who I'll call 'Hannah' told me there was a strong military attendance in the woods after several hexagonal shaped UFOs visited the district. Nowadays, the area is a Mecca for enigmatic unmarked helicopters and when questioned the local Air Force, Police and Airport assure me their aircraft are not in the territory. Last year, a helicopter hovered over a housing estate early one morning. The residents got up and went outside to see what all the fuss was about and it was then they saw four pulsing red lights above a corn field. The helicopter began to close in on the lights and as it got nearer, the lights shot off at great speed towards Aldershot.

In retrospect, it is now obvious that the British Government investigates UFO reports, but has it drawn any conclusions? According to some sources, the RAF did indeed reach a UFO decision asserting the root of the phenomena was extraterrestrial and that humankind was somehow related to the visitors! Was Darwin wrong? I daren't say, but I have learned that during the 1960s a building called Riverwalk House, which was used by the Intelligence Services (SIS, MI6, MI5) for the compilation of Eastern bloc and Russian affairs, did have some of the sought after answers. Apparently, during a document review in the building's library, two female colleagues came across a confidential file which stated the British Government had solved the UFO mystery, and that we really aren't alone!

Certainly, some UFO cases have come to light through US documents released under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Here, ministers use secrecy to suppress embarrassing findings and to protect themselves from public challenge. But the findings about UFOs may be so powerful, governments acting in our names, may only be doing so because they feel it is the right thing to do. After all, government influence affects just about every aspect of our lives. In matters of national security, it seems obvious for governments to become mute, but I believe it is time for the curtain to be lifted and governments should become more honest with society.

**Encounters** would like to thank Jonathon Dillon for this fascinating insight into our Government's guarded silence. Should you have any information relating to RAF/MOD/Military involvement etc. with the UFO subject, Jonathon would like to hear from you. He can be contacted at 176 Coal Clough Lane, Burnley, Lancashire. BB11 4NJ.

Finally Jonathon would in turn like to thank Matt Williams, of the *Truthseekers Review*, for the Photograph and Nick Redfern and Robert Gray for their help with this article.

◀ Satellites, meteors and space junk are among the most common explanations given by the MOD, for a possible UFO sighting.

▲ MI5 keeps bulky files listing any subversive interests of RAF employees. These files are strictly classified.

**The MOD's Air Staff 2a has computerised UFO files, but most of them are pretty innocent.**

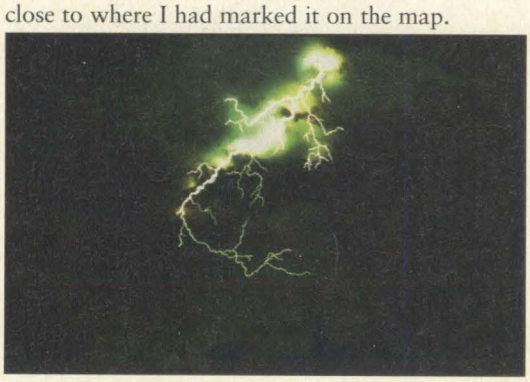
# WITHIN THE CIRCLE

**With so many crop circles being shown up as the work of hoaxers it was intriguing to discover a man who claims to have witnessed the making of a circle by paranormal forces. He recites his tale for Encounters.**

We have recently come in contact with a Crop Circle researcher who claims to have been in the centre of a circle that was in the process of being created by forces unknown. It happened in Lockeridge, near Malborough. He says that due to his years of study he can tell the difference between hoaxes and the real phenomenon at a glance. His name is Ziggy Kklyonsski, he dabbles in many trades, from being a light and sound engineer to writer and he is soon to start up a night-club venue based around the alien visitation theme, in an effort to raise awareness. This is his own personal testimony.

**• Tell us about the incident**

It was high up to the west, the actual noise was coming from due south, I checked that with my compass. I walked to the top of the hill and I could see in the distance, a few miles away, a gap in the trees and behind it I could see plasma appearing. It was purple, blue and neon white. The dog wouldn't come anywhere near me, it was shaking. I went to the crest of the hill and I could see the activity, the plasma activity. I took down the compass readings and I put down an 'X' on the map where it seemed to be coming from. I went off the next morning, I did find it and it was close to where I had marked it on the map.

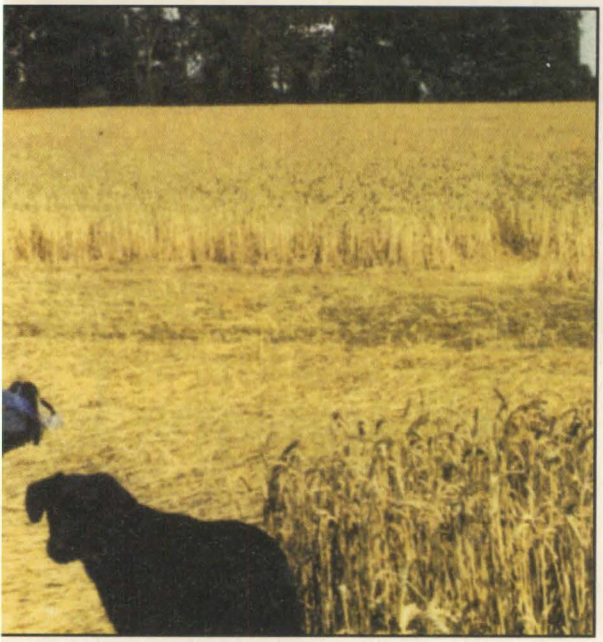


**• Was this plasma burst like lightening?**

It was like vandagraphs. Just before a vandagraph fires there's that almost neon purple, which you get inside a plasma dome. You get the fields between the two electrodes which arc. Well, what I saw was like that. It was very distinguishable and I reckon the noise was over 2000 Mhz. It was really high up, just about in our audible range but probably more in a dog's audible range. When I was in the circle I couldn't take readings.

It was completely impracticle. It span around. I did some dowsing. I had a crystal pendulam go up, arc out in front of me, do three circles and then point due north west and drop with no following activity. I noted that down and found it to be direct ley line orientation to Silsbury Hill. Then the dog wandered into the circle and started sniffing around. There was a crack and she yelped. She started walking anti-clockwise, the

**I could see in the distance, a few miles away, a gap in the trees and behind it I could see plasma appearing.**



opposite way to the ley of the circle. Then she started vomitting and shivering. I took her out of the circle and she recovered in a matter of seconds. I went back in the circle and while I was taking measurements I heard more of the same electrical sound and every hair on my body stood up. A ley opened up in front of me, going away from me and I watched the stalks fall back on each other. They just fell back in a straight line. That was at a distance of just about two metres by half a metre, very exact measurements. It seemed like a path into the middle of the circle.

I went back to the circle a day later and there were more additions. Two sets of circles, one and a half metres in diameter. Full blocks, swirls, to the west and to the south of it.

I get a load of harrasement on sites. I went to see a site, which was supposedly on Ministry land. Within ten minutes a party arrived and

◀ Strange arcs of light were visible from nearby the crop circle. Was it a paranormal influence?

they gave me a real hard time. I even got followed by a military police car. I had just pulled out of the study at that time. This was about the time when those two guys claimed that they had made all the circles.

• **So you believe that there is a cover up?**

There is definitely a cover up.

I was measuring the Alton Barnes pictogram and I met Yuto Kashimio, a scientist from Japan. He was telling me that he had information on one of the first corn circles in the Silsbury hill area. The Ministry took corn from the flat bed after it had ripened and were sewing strips on Ministry land and were doing experiments to see if there were any structural alterations. So I decided to do the same. I grew twenty stalks and they all had twenty rows of ears on each which is remarkable. It is double the normal yeild. I've still got some of those original grains.

Encounters would like to thank Ziggy Kklyonsski for his personal story about being in the centre of a crop circle as it was formed. Although we are well aware of the hoaxes that have been played on the public about such occurrences, it is exciting to read such a startling account which verifies a paranormal influence.

We'd like to thank Thomas Ashley and Ziggy Kklyonsski for the use of the Crop Circle pictures.

**It was like vandagraphs. Just before a vandagraph fires there's that almost neon purple, which you get inside a plasma dome. You get the fields between the two electrodes which arc.**

# Readers' Stories

## MYSTERIOUS LIGHT CIRCLES IN CAMBRIDGE

This story was sent to us by Brian Hewlett from Norfolk, who needs our readers to help him verify something very strange that he witnessed in December last year.

I am writing to enquire if you have any information on or an explanation for circles of light being reflected on the underside of clouds in the vicinity of Cambridge on the evening of 14th December, 1995?

I was in my car travelling eastwards on the A14 approaching the town of Cambridge at approximately 9.30pm, when I became aware of circles of light apparently on the underside of clouds some distance ahead of me and slightly to the left of my forward vision. As I proceeded along the road the lights seemed to travel from left to right across the road ahead. This may have appeared to happen because there was a long left hand curve to the road. As I drew nearer to the lights they were noticeably clearer and took the shape of two circles, perhaps three, of lights. One circle was within another, and each circle consisted of several points of light. The circles would move clockwise for a period of time, stop and then move anti-clockwise, stop and repeat the pattern.

As they became clear on my right hand side, I wound down my window to see if there was any trick being played on me by my own car window glass, and I could still see the lights quite clearly on the southern side of the A14. Eventually I passed them and I lost sight of them.

I could not decide whether the lights emanated from the ground, there were no beams visible, or whether I was perhaps seeing the lower end of lights shining through from the clouds above.

I would be interested to hear if you have received other reports of this sighting, or similar ones in this area, and I would be most grateful for any explanation.

**Encounters** says: We are very happy to be able to explain this sighting having experienced the same phenomenon in Bournemouth, around the same date. The simple answer is that we are led to believe that a number of schoolchildren, supervised by their teachers, apparently in many areas of the country, held special evenings where, with the use of high powered light beams, the children could send light messages to Santa as it was very close to Christmas. This is almost certainly what the gentleman in Cambridge encountered.. Although not a UFO, the light show was very impressive, if more than just a little bit misleading!

## The Ghost Car. Or Is It?

A friend of mine was walking through a lonely part of town one night when he heard a noise behind him. Out of the darkness loomed a black car with no lights on. It stopped beside him and thinking it must be someone he knew offering him a ride, he thankfully got in. Only when the car moved off again silently, did he see that no one was sitting in the driver's seat. He sat frozen with terror until the car came to a halt right outside the graveyard. With a sudden burst of energy, he opened the door and jumped outside, where still shaken, he began to walk hurriedly away. He heard a sound, someone breathing loudly like an animal. Reluctantly he turned and saw a man leaning against the wall staring at the car. "Don't go near that car", my friend warned. "There's something wrong with it."

"I know that", the man snapped back. "I've just pushed it for two miles."

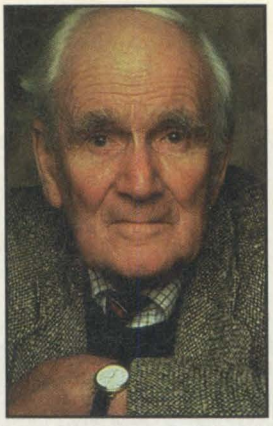
Thanks to Sheila O'Connor of Glasgow for this witty slant on tales of ghostly vehicles.

http://www.paragon.co.uk

# PSI SPIES

**Secret intelligence agencies around the world have realised over the past few decades the power of clairvoyants and psychics. Psi Power, as it is known, has become potentially more powerful and more lethal than atomic energy. Marie-Louise Small investigates for Encounters.**

The new weapon in the world of espionage has dealt the deathblow to the spies of old. Take note Agent 007 and George Smiley - your gold watches are in the mail. It's 1996 and to be perfectly frank gentlemen, time to come in from the cold. With this new Wonder Weapon, there's no need for all that cloak-and-dagger stuff... in fact, no need really for a trained Psi Spy to leave the comfort of his or her favourite armchair.



The new Wonder Weapon is not one of Q's high-tech gadgets, cooked up at HQ. It's the Power of Psi. To non-spies, that means the super energy of thought, responsible for extra-sensory perception (ESP) and telekinesis. It's available to most people but requires practise and training. Best of all, since it is thought energy, it's available anywhere and at anytime at no cost.

First developed in the former Soviet Union and then adopted by the West, Psi makes some use of the 90 per cent of the human brain that is normally left unused. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security though by its innocuous description. The Soviets spent over 50 years experimenting with Psi to, among other things, alter the thoughts and behaviour of individuals (specifically world leaders) and populations, spread disease from a distance, stunt plant growth and even kill animals.

► Gone are the days of 007 agents, these days the spies can sit in their own living rooms and still get the girl!

While Western scientists were preoccupied with the basics of psychic thought, like testing whether ESP existed, behind the Iron Curtain their counterparts were conducting sophisticated mind power experiments including thought transference from submarine to shore.

The intelligence services and military of the Western World had to indulge in some pretty fast and fancy footwork to catch up. American/Canadian Psi investigators, Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Shroeder revealed the Soviet advances after visiting the former USSR in 1968 when the Communist state was undergoing a periodical openness to psychic phenomena. The result of their visit was the book, Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain which gained much attention in the USA. After the book's release, the pair were visited by representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who were interested in the area of psychic warfare.

During their visit to Moscow, primarily to attend the first international conference on ESP in the city, the women were actually able to see the Soviets' advances into areas such as accelerated learning, telepathy, Kirlian photography and research, telepathic hypnosis, dowsing, and bio-energy/bio-plasma related matters.

"Telepathically influencing someone's body, particularly negatively, is an ongoing Russian interest', they said in their book.

The Soviets were keen to establish a method of instant communication, whatever the distances between the communicators were. They wanted to determine how secure a Psi communication system would be.

"Russians are the only people we know of who tried bugging telepathy," they said. By introducing a third telepathist who knew when Psi energy flowed between two test telepathists, they found such a system could not only be broken into but altered by that third party. Substitute messages or images could be transmitted by that third party.

"The use of Psi for espionage is a Soviet natural", the women reported. The US Defense Intelligence Agency apparently agreed and throughout the 1970s and 1980s, declassified Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) documents were apparently registered with titles such as Soviet and Czech Parapsychology Research, Parapsychics R&D and the Warsaw Pact, and Control Offensive Behaviour USSR.

In the December 1980 edition of the US *Military Review*, Lieutenant Colonel John Alexander wrote that Soviet Psi could very easily interfere with the US Armed Forces and suggested defence techniques be prepared to prevent such occurrences.

Scientists who defected from the USSR reported tales of working with psychics to view secret Soviet missile sites, of working with the army to clairvoyantly observe troop movements, of cracking secret codes and of zapping objects, people and animals with negative psychic energy. One former PSI laboratory scientist told of how a colleague had been asked to use her psychic ability to influence foreign leaders as they spoke on to the public on radio.

"Some Psi training and experiments had highly negative effects on subjects", they said, adding the effects had included sickness, nervous breakdowns, and even insanity.

One of the key Soviet discoveries occurred in 1917 and was developed from the 1930s. A technique known as 'Sleep-Wake Hypnosis' allowed a hypnotist to transfer hypnotic commands telepathically to a subject, whether they were a few feet or even 1,000 miles away! This technique was dramatically demonstrated recently on hypnotist Paul McKenna's ITV programme, *Paul McKenna's World of the Paranormal* when an Eastern European hypnotist telepathically raised and lowered the heartbeat of a subject in another room. Dramatic developments in the 'Sleep-Wake Hypnosis' methods in the 1960s meant the hypnotist could not only hypnotise a subject but psychically affect their body's movements.

The Soviet's abiding interest in mind control is particularly focused on manipulation and telepathic eavesdropping. The Americans are aware of this interest. For example, in declassified documents, the Director of the CIA's Mind Control Programme, Sydney Gotlieb testified that the Soviets had used negative mind control to cause anxiety, depression and confusion in top level State visitors including President Richard Nikon's doctor and associates. The Soviets often took trained telepathists to influence top level meetings and competitions.

Finding the bio-energy responsible and storing it in accumulators to affect objects and people is another Soviet development. In the past, they are believed to have used the energy to charge up souvenir objects like dolls, spoons and jewels, which were then presented to visitors with the sole intention of altering their mental and physical well-being.

◀ Soviet scientists who have defected to the West have reported using psychics to read the minds of foreign leaders.

## REMOTE VIEWING

But the Americans fought hard to catch up. In an address to the 1992 International Symposium on UFO Research, US Major General Albert N. Stubblebine III told his audience of Remote Viewing (RV), a method of reading thoughts of others as well as viewing documents and plans of buildings. He operated a Remote Viewing

**A technique known as 'Sleep-Wake Hypnosis' allowed a hypnotist to transfer hypnotic commands telepathically to a subject, whether they were a few feet or even 1,000 miles away!**

company called Psi Tech. RV is a very systematic, controlled method of accessing information that is not normally available by any other source. It was originated by physicists, Hal Puthoff and Russell Targ at Stanford Research International and funded by the CIA and the US Navy.

In the book, *The Geller Factor*, co-author, Guy Lyon-Playfair said Remote Viewing is one of the few areas where the role of psychic espionage had been well established.

He quoted the case of a CIA project 'Grill Frame' which produced information later confirmed by satellite about a very sensitive nuclear test site at Semipalatinsk in Soviet Kazakhstan and which led to the location of a crashed Soviet Tu-95 bomber in Africa.

To illustrate the type of work Stubblebine's Psi Tech had been involved with, the Major-General gave the following example: during the Desert Shield phase of the Gulf War, Stubblebine was asked by a very large US corporation to determine what impact the war would have on oil prices.

"The project was to look inside (Iraqi President Saddam) Hussein's head and find out what he was thinking and where he was going and what was he going to do, now this was ahead of time... The answer was he would still be there at the end (of the War) in spite of two assassination attempts... and would still be in charge." The RV practitioners also reported seeing a big oil fire which took place when Iraqi soldiers set alight the oil fields in Kuwait.

"The project was to look inside (Iraqi President Saddam) Hussein's head and find out what he was thinking and where he was going and what was he going to do"

Psychics tend to be less controlled in their thought readings than RV practitioners, he said, adding the RV training took one year in controlled conditions. Time is not a barrier to RV, he said.

"So I can go past, I can go present, I can go future. It is independent of location so I can go anywhere on this Earth, I can go into any closet, I can go into any mind. I can access that information at any location that I choose. It is independent of space, therefore I can access that information any place on the planet or indeed off it if I choose; and it is independent of counter-measures," Stubblebine explained.

But the methods are not yet able to deal with words or numbers very accurately. "For instance", admitted Stubblebine, "I could not go in and read a report that is in somebody's safe. I might be able to get the essence of that report but I could not read it, I can get sensing of it but I cannot at this stage of the game go in and do the reading and numbers or particular letters are hard."

Paul McKenna's television programme featured an American RV practitioner recently, who under a strictly controlled experiment was able to draw part of a scene that another man was looking at over on the other side of London. He admitted that time had no effect on his ability to remote view an event - he claimed he could see the event before it took place.

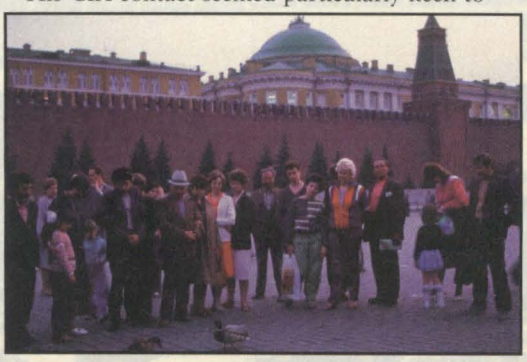
## URI GELLER AND PSI SPYING

International psychic and dowser, Uri Geller admitted he had been asked by various countries to use his abilities to access secret information. On his own initiative, Geller has set out to alter the attitudes and thoughts of world leaders, he said in his book, *The Geller Effect*.

The late Israeli war hero and politician, General Moshe Dayan once approached Geller to discuss the potential uses of his psychic powers in a military context. "He seemed resigned to the fact that I was more interested in becoming rich and famous than in being some kind of psychic super-spy," Geller admitted.

Later, Geller changed his mind. One of his first Psi spy encounters happened during the 1970s when he lived in Mexico. He was approached by the CIA in Mexico and given a veritable Psi shopping list. They asked him to describe the interior of the Soviet embassy and whether or not he could erase the computer tapes there, read the numbers of a combination lock, name the ranks and duties of people visiting the embassy, crack codes, predict espionage drops, and describe what papers were in the embassy's diplomatic pouches. To encourage his assistance, they gave Geller a multi-entry visa into the USA. "The Americans had done me a 'favour' so now I would do one for them," he said. "I had never tried to obtain information from the inside of a building before but I saw no reason why it should be more difficult than any other exercise in either telepathy or clairvoyance," he added. Strolling around the block where the embassy was located, Geller simply scribbled down the images he received on his mental 'television screen'.

His CIA contact seemed particularly keen to



hear about the espionage drops and Geller was later to discover he had stumbled across "one of the major spy dramas of the century". The film, *The Falcon and the Snowman* was based on that spy ring. A Californian drugs dealer, Daulton Lee, sold details of the highly sensitive US Rhyolite and Argus Communications Satellites to the Soviets. He made several visits to the embassy in 1975 and 1976 and on his last visit, in 1977, made the drop by throwing a piece of paper through the railings. He was immediately arrested by Mexican police on suspicion of having murdered a Mexican policeman in the past.

Unfortunately for Lee, a US embassy official happened to be in the Soviet embassy on a courtesy call and was able to alert the US authorities about the situation.

Geller said, 'Whether my information had anything to do with this episode or not, I cannot say, although it did strike me as odd that the Mexican police seemed to be ready and waiting for the spy who could not of course be arrested by the Americans in a foreign country. Officially, however, I was told nothing at all, as is invariably the case with an affair of this kind.'

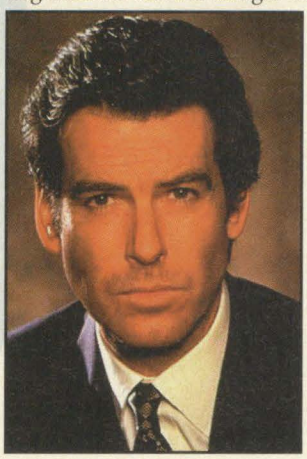
Geller was asked to help the Mexican Government with 'low-level intelligence gathering'. One of the more unusual tasks he was asked to do for the CIA was to influence the mind of incoming US President Jimmy Carter at his Presidential Inauguration on January 20, 1977.

Concerned about America's lag in psychic information compared with Soviet bloc countries, Geller's contact asked him to telepathically convince Carter to invest in research programmes on the subject. At the event, Geller said he managed to find a place on the official receiving line and met Carter for a few seconds and sent the message, 'Psychic phenomena are real. Open your mind. Put the money into research. Six million dollars. Catch up with the Soviets'.

Once again, Geller received no direct feedback but did notice a report that appeared seven years later in which it said Carter had ordered in 1977 a "high level review of Soviet psychic research" after a meeting with Geller. The meeting never actually took place but the review did and found 'definite Soviet interest'.

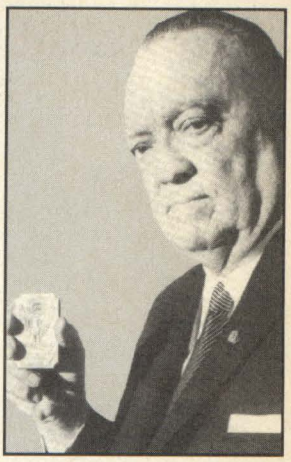
In 1984, Geller attempted to help the South Koreans locate underground tunnels constructed by the North Koreans.

More recently, Geller was approached by the US Government to attend a function for the US/Soviet disarmament talks in Geneva during 1987. After the formal reception, Geller accompanied the key American and Soviet players in the talks to a restaurant. He says of the meeting, "It soon became clear to me, by perfectly normal means, that both sides had come to Geneva to bargain, negotiate and discuss, not to present previously established fixed positions, as might have been the case under earlier Soviet administrations. Throughout the meal, I kept up a steady bombardment of my own form of negotiation: intense images of peace."



The next day, the then Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov announced an offer to remove all medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe, East and West. Although not claiming to be responsible for glasnost, Geller does believe his thought bombardment might have had some positive effects on Soviet initiatives.

Most countries have now discovered the incredible power of Psi but so far few have risen to its greatest challenge - to resist the temptation to use it in a harmful way against other races.



▲ J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI 1924-1972. He took a serious interest in remote viewing techniques used by the Russians.

**One of the more unusual tasks he was asked to do for the CIA was to influence the mind of incoming US President Jimmy Carter at his Presidential Inauguration on January 20, 1977.**

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PRESENTS

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* GUESTS ON STAGE *

CLAUDIA CHRISTIAN -
Commander IVANOVA

JERRY DOYLE -
GARIBALDI

ANDREA THOMPSON -
TALIA WINTERS

RICHARD BIGGS
Dr FRANKLIN

MIRA FURLAN -
Ambassador DELENN

PETER JURASIK -
Ambassador LONDO

JASON CARTER -
Ranger MARCUS COLE

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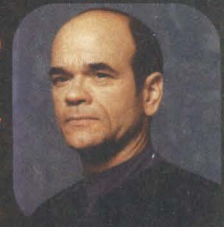
LEONARD NIMOY -
Mr SPOCK

AVERY BROOKS -
CAPT SISKO

ROBERT PICARDO -
DR ZIMMERMAN

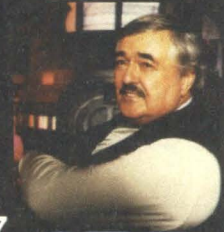
ETHAN PHILLIPS -
NEELIX (VOYAGER)



WALTER KOENIG -
Mr CHEKOV

GEORGE TAKEI -
Mr SULU

JAMES DOOHAN -
SCOTTY



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# READERS' SURVEY 2

After a great response from the initial survey in Issue 2 of Encounters, we decided to have another one now we have progressed. The point of having this survey is to find out who you are and what you want from the magazine, editorial and advertising wise. It is also an insight into the amount of paranormal experiences out there. In the last survey, we also had a section asking the public if they had had any strange experiences. We had reports of UFOs, ghosts, telepathy and even the levitation of a cat!

If we receive enough feedback with the paranormal experiences you jot down, then we may publish them in a future issue. If you have had an experience and you wish to include your phone number, then we may get back to you and make a feature out of it!

Please put your surveys in an envelope and post them to Encounters SURVEYS. Paragon Publishing Ltd. Paragon House, St. Peter's Road, Bournemouth, Dorset. BH1 2JS. In the meantime, thank-you for helping us with the following information.

• Are You:
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

• Age
- ☐ 10-19
- ☐ 20-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60 or over

• Would you like to subscribe to Encounters?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No

• What is your household income?
- ☐ £5,000 - £8,000
- ☐ £9,000- £14,000
- ☐ £15,000-£20,000
- ☐ £21,000-£25,000
- ☐ £26,000- £30,000
- ☐ £30,000 or over

• What is you occupation?

• Do you work in a paranormal environment?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

• How many people read you copy of Encounters?
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 5+

• What daily newspaper do you read?
- ☐ The Sun
- ☐ The Daily Star
- ☐ The Guardian
- ☐ The Times
- ☐ The Telegraph
- ☐ The Independent
- ☐ The Daily Express
- ☐ The Daily Mail
- ☐ The Daily Mirror
- ☐ Others(please state)
- ☐ None

• Which Sunday newspaper do you read?
- ☐ The Observer
- ☐ The Sunday Times
- ☐ The Sunday Express
- ☐ The Mail on Sunday
- ☐ Independent on Sunday
- ☐ The Sunday Mail
- ☐ News of the World
- ☐ Others (please state)
- ☐ None

# READERS' SURVEY 2

ENCOUNTERS

- Do you own a car?
  - ☐ Yes
  - ☐ No
- What other paranormal magazines do you read?
  - ☐ UFO Magazine
  - ☐ SFX
  - ☐ Fortean Times
  - ☐ Prediction
  - ☐ Nexus
- You obviously enjoy Encounters but how can we make it better?

- Do you think Encounters is good value for money overall?
  - ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you ever had a paranormal experience?
  - ☐ Yes ☐ No (if 'Yes' please state)

- What are your favourite TV programmes?

- Other Hobbies and Interests?

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readersurvey2

Thank you. We do appreciate your time.

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# ALIENS IN OUR OCEAN

## Part III

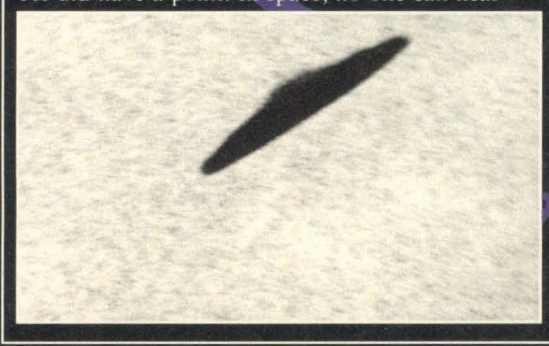
**Eris Andys concludes her three part article with a fascinating look at the complexities surrounding our relationship with alien beings. How much are we being deluded by those we have elected to power?**

I'd been having my late afternoon usual at a Beverly Hills café during the Spring of 1988. Suddenly, a wad of newspaper clippings landed in front of me with a dull thud. My writer friend Don Patterson stood over me grinning, "These should interest you". What he had was a chronicle of the bizarre suicides of four British scientists all of whom had been working for the same defence company in the mid 80s. All of them had been working on a specific component to a Star Wars device, or so it appeared on first reading.

An unnamed spokesperson from the company had apparently put it down to "job stress". I was unsure, however, whether stress was an adequate reason for a research team to kill themselves dramatically, in a short space of time and with little sign of a motive. At the time it was declared that there would be a public inquest for one of the men who'd driven his Jaguar into an abandoned roadside restaurant. The results were to be published as a matter of record, but this never happened. With commendable efficiency, the powers that be saw to it that this case was quickly buried.

Ordering himself a double cognac, Patterson nudged another clipping onto my place mat, "now read this one". This second article was a brief account of the mysterious vanishing of yet another scientist, working for the same company, who'd disappeared during a test of an ultra low frequency device for underwater use. His footprints, it was stated, had stopped abruptly in the mud at the shore of the reservoir where the test was being conducted. It was as if he had gone straight up into thin air.

Patterson and I looked at each other. From the corner of his mouth he said, "Star Wars, my ass". He did have a point. In space, no one can hear you complain, because space is soundless, the ultimate in quiet. No need for sonic devices there. Maybe the ill fated scientists had not been on the Star Wars project at all, but on an underwater weapons system of some type? Possibly even one worth kidnapping and murdering for?



Finally, Patterson told me that recently, CIA operatives who'd infiltrated the Aviation Institute in Moscow, were being arrested as spies, and that some of them had been executed, just like that, no trades, no deals. A purge was also taking place in the States for any double agent counterparts.

In retrospect, now that time has passed and now that Russia has been admitted to NATO, it appears that perhaps there had been an error in having suspected the Russians.

In a statement released by UFO researcher John Lear, on 29th December, 1987, he presented the following:

"Project Aquarius....at the time we saw the information, the project was ongoing. It cannot be determined if this project is still in existence. The mission of this project was to develop a low frequency pulsed sound generator. The energy produced from this generator was to be concentrated so that it could be aimed and used as a weapon in order to destroy the alien craft and beam weapons. The alien beam weapons were described as 'range', but were able to incapacitate or destroy any weapons systems known to date (1972). Tests were described as having shown that the alien craft and weapons were extremely sensitive to low frequency pulsed sound waves. Should we call this a strange coincidence?"

Before going any further, I should perhaps admit to being bored rigid by the 'cloak and dagger' adventures of grown men with names like 'Bigbird' or 'Popeye' who always manage to find above top secret project files, which they may only examine for two minutes and which contain preposterous projects which, if attempted, would fold up the universe like a suitcase.

As for the alleged defence company's 'Star Wars' project, oscillation at one chosen frequency produces only that one frequency of radiation. So

The energy produced from this generator was to be concentrated so that it could be aimed and used as a weapon in order to destroy the alien craft and beam weapons.

# ALIENS IN OUR OCEAN

▲ Does the sleek Sea Shadow contain secret beam weapons which have been developed from alien technology?

it is important to ask about the sort of mechanism which would be disabled by low frequency pulsed sound waves. What is it? Perhaps a clue may be found in an FBI memo of March 1950 stating that "radar interferes with the controlling mechanism of the saucers". Ironically, if my father was still alive, he could tell me exactly what this all implies as he designed some of the telemetry for NASA when he was working.

The question should be whether a rotating and oscillating high voltage, electromagnetic standing wave which changes gravitational phase, could be interrupted by cool, longer wavelengths. To jam a radar system is in theory easy. Transmitting electrical noise will do it.

Without becoming too technical, it is important to have specifics about phrases like, "The energy produced from this generator was to be concentrated so that it could be aimed and used as a weapon in order to destroy the alien craft and beam weapons."

I do know that in radio astronomy, radio frequencies are measured in a beam of hydrogen atoms and that the vanished scientist in question had been testing particular his device beneath the water.

In a world with heat-seeking and motion-sensitive missiles, I am certain that I am not the only person who has wondered why the Super Powers appear to lack a shoot down policy relating to UFOs. In August of 1975, during the latter stages of a major sighting, (which I had been involved in), three orange UFOs cruised merrily past the California coast from Santa Monica to San Diego. They took it nice and easy and seemed in no particular hurry. Calls from 7000 onlookers clogged lines to the police, fire services, news stations and military bases.

When the craft reached San Diego, fighters were scrambled. Basically, as was reported by Channel 5 News at 11pm, they deployed, flew at a respectful distance and then returned to base. Not the slightest attempt was made to fire upon what had obviously been UFOs, though doing so would have presented no danger to the public because of the crafts being over the ocean. Nor had the UFOs taken any evasive action, they even maintained their relatively slow speed.. Witnesses watched from their boats in the local marina as the UFOs, flying in a 'V' formation made their way to the south east of the open sea.

One could almost envisage the UFO identification symbol coming on screen on the aircraft console, presumably something amounting to 'don't shoot, good guys'. If you rationalise the event, you reach the conclusion that perhaps they'd known, these curiously uninterested pilots, that any attempt at aggression would be futile and/or deadly. Of course they had no comment to offer the press after the event, about simply being attendant to such a flagrant UFO display. At least they hadn't tried to insult the public with more rubbish about falling space probes or planets going drastically out of orbit for the night.

What made this incident even more interesting was that, prior to this sighting, UFOs had been seen over military bases and missile silos in at least four states. Had they been civilian aircraft they most certainly would have either been shot down, ordered to land, or escorted out of the airspace. Not a move was made against these UFOs however. Still more elaborate is the fact that the United States Army Missile Command very quickly ordered technical reports from a physicist named Bearden, who had been putting UFO sightings down to psychotronics (the creation of illusions resultant from trained collective consciousness). So while the Army entertained the concept of having been bamboozled somehow, the USAF had another agenda which hadn't included taking aggressive action against UFOs.

Incidentally, these particular UFOs, or rather their occupants, are thought most likely to be responsible for the abduction of Travis Walton and Charles Moody. They'd done their coast to coast sweep and had been seen off. A check of the relevant dates should add dimension to this notion.

Let me make my ideas clear, I am not advocating the shooting down of UFOs, at least not in most cases. This particular group had been friendly and civilised (something which the USAF seemed to have been aware of once again). However, I cannot help being curious as to why THEY haven't used aggressive techniques in

certain instances. They have taken the trouble, as I told you last issue, to inform a selection of we 'hicks' about hostiles and their destructive capacities.

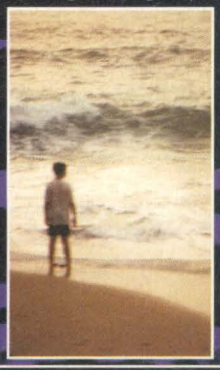
The Russians, prior to their inclusion in NATO, had been known to have an itchy trigger finger, which is still evident when it comes to internal conflict. In 1994 they downed a Korean jumbo jet which had strayed into restricted Soviet airspace near Vladivostok, where beam weapons were being tested. This base, let me add, is not a theory but a matter of common knowledge by now, in fact the mainstream press reported it. So, in other words, despite countless lingering UFO sightings, the Russians will take out a civilian 747 but appear to leave UFOs untouched, at least to the best of our knowledge.

We know from 45 years of UFO lore that military (as well as civilian) aircraft have not fared well at all when confronted by saucers. Seldom have I heard the question posed as to why some pilots are simply spooked and others crash or are never seen again. Further, I am given to wonder about the seemingly obvious synchronicity of the Silverlake UFO meeting and the previously mentioned Defence company 'suicides' and disappearances.

It is a popular conspiracy theory that there's an odd form of co-operation between aliens and the upper rung of NATO, which is based upon a 'you can't get us anyhow' form of tolerance.

The thing is, if the USAF's Silverlake conference was to be believed, the Pentagon and NATO defence chiefs would not be standing around with their thumbs in their belts waiting for a full scale invasion. There would be a plan, a weapon and a target, despite it having been stated that the physical make-up of the culprits was unknown. The 'tests' mentioned in John Lear's release would indicate that the military had something to play with, something to test this weapon on.

Over time, several projects named 'Aquarius' have been identified. The researcher Bill Moore claims he's been informed that a 'Black Budget' classified 'Top Secret Project Aquarius' exists under the Naval Intelligence Support Centre at Suitland, Maryland, and is also under a branch of the Defense Intelligence Agency. All of took place around the mid eighties and is probably still happening.



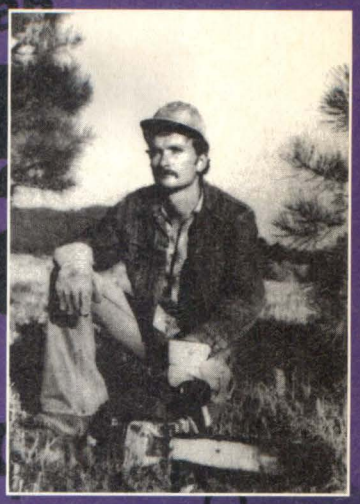
Though all this presents a rather convoluted picture, this time, the MOD in league with the US military have, in my opinion, slipped up, by leaving an actual trail to follow. They always assume (incorrectly), that once they bury a thing that it stays buried.

The relevant questions are: Where did the initial defence subcontract come from? Had it been classified under Project Aquarius? If so, has it now been relocated? Just how many 'D' notices are still on a now, supposedly, defunct Star Wars project (and the deaths surrounding it)? Does the new stealth battle cruiser, the Sea Shadow, contain such a weapon?

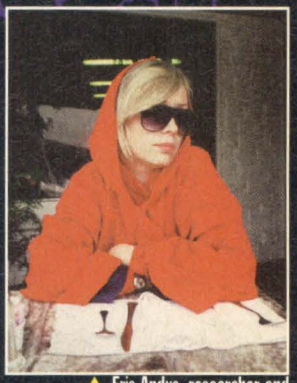
Finally, it is important to ask against which particular enemy this weapon would be used? The Russians, whose submarine fleets lie rotting in Murmansk waiting for nuclear clean up funding from the US and any country that'll help?

Summing up, things have gone too far. Had someone organised and mobilised the public in 1947, when the Roswell incident occurred, things could have been different. Instead, the public is now obliged to play cat and mouse with a global military/industrial complex which is so big and powerful, and beyond the law, that we are being confused and intimidated. We have little chance of learning the facts. It has reached the point where, even if we are shown concrete proof, we still won't believe it. I'm fairly certain that this has been the object of the whole exercise all along. Abraham Lincoln once said, "a house divided cannot stand". Only by making us sufficiently jaundiced will 'they' be able to wheel out their newest aircraft revelations and other bits and pieces which will emerge, seemingly from nowhere. This will serve to bewilder us more. There will come a time when even the most canny of us won't be able to tell our aircraft apart from UFOs, and then what? As saucer-like vehicles go cruising past your window, you won't know who or what they contain. Will it be the Russian Equipe? Perhaps it'll be the ducted fan-powered Shadow, recently released from surveillance to replace the blimp in advertising sport shoes at Wembley Arena.

Most of us will be thrown back into the misinformation quagmire unless new and ingenious ways are found which may bring us closer to the facts. We must do this until two aliens or more take the seats which have been waiting for them at the European Parliament.

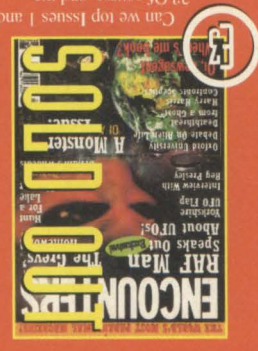


▲ Craft spotted over San Diego in August 1975 are thought to be the same craft that abductee Travis Walton visited.

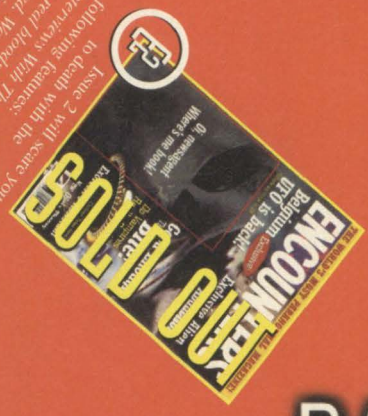


▲ Eris Andys, researcher and freelance writer.

**It is a popular conspiracy theory that there's an odd form of co-operation between aliens and the upper rung of NATO**




Can we top Issues 1 and 2? Of course, and we have done with Issue 3! Have a butchers at what's inside: *RAF man reveals life with UFOs. Reg Presley Interview: Rocksta turned Ufologist. Big Cats Of Britain: They are stalking the moors. Harry Harris: Solicitor takes on the sceptics.*




Issue 2 will scare you to death with the Vampires; Ghostwatch features; Interviews With The Real Bloodsuckers; The real bloodsuckers; Exposed: Worm Hole Theory; Super-highways in the stars; Hollow Earth Theory: Are there inner worlds? Belgium UFO scare in Britain.

This issue we will never forget. Project Cop a load of Man from Uranus; Spontaneous combustion: There's no smoke without fire. The dustbin Mutilation Chronicles: The Mutilation of Cattle: Psychic Harvesting: Mars needs women: Plus: A flight to Uranus: Plus so much more...

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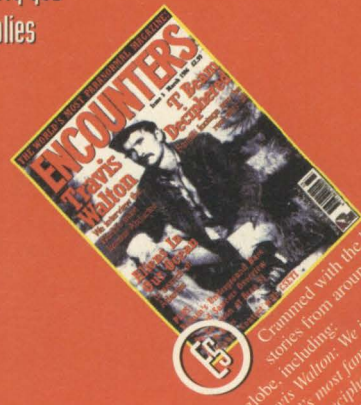


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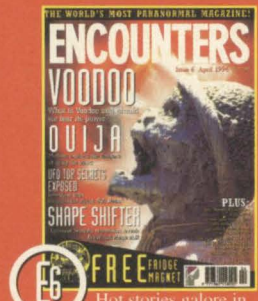


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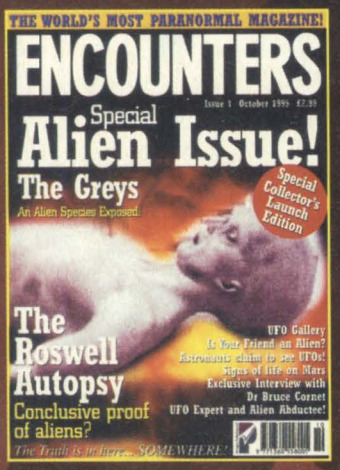


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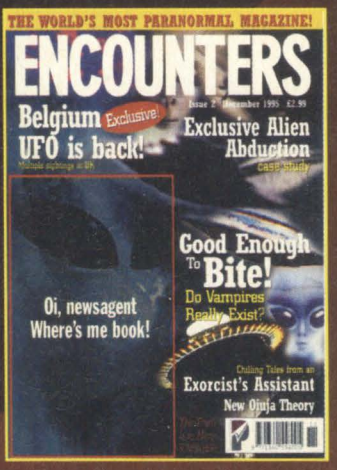


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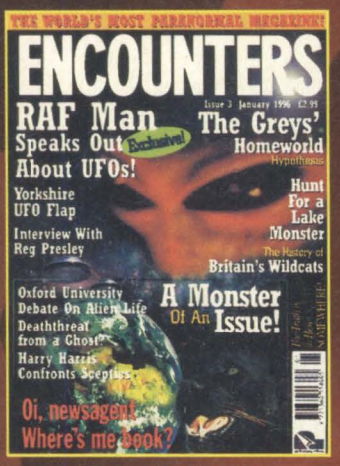


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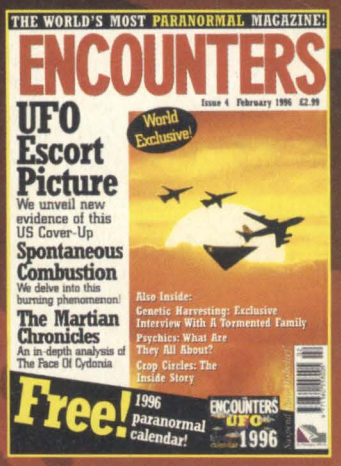
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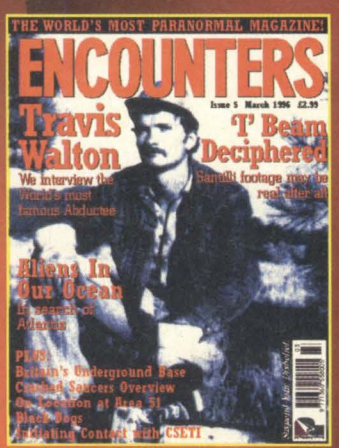


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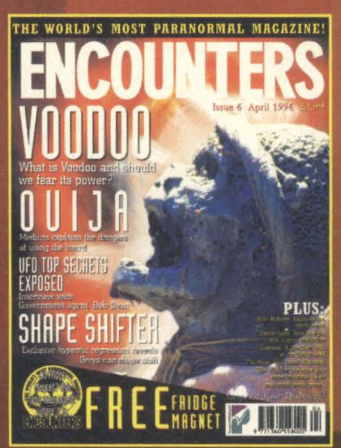


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# The Red

## A HAUNTING TALE

Investigative reporter, Marcus Walker, Photographer Al Russell and myself, your humble Editor, took a trip to Avebury, one of the most paranormal places in Britain. After investigating the Standing Stones, we felt a strange urge drawing us to the nearby Red Lion Inn, purely for research reasons of course.

Pat and Anne McCann have been Landlord and Landlady of the 'most haunted pub in Britain' for the past 11 months. They kindly agreed to talk to **Encounters** about Flori, the ghost of a woman who is said to reside at the Inn.

**• Can you tell me about the Red Lion's history, and especially about 'Flori' your resident ghost?**
The pub itself dates back to 1802, but the building goes back as far as the 1600s, which is where the civil war connection is made with the pub and Flori. The local tale of Flori is that her husband had come back from the civil wars and had come into the pub where the well room is now, and went upstairs thinking he would surprise her. He certainly got a surprise himself because he found her in bed with another man. He then gave the man a beating, resulting in the man diving out of the window to escape. The irate husband then completely lost his cool and strangled Flori, threw her down the well and proceeded to tell everyone that she had run off with the guy. However, possibly guilt ridden, he decided to own up to his offence three or four weeks later. He was subsequently tried, found guilty and hanged on Morgan's Hill, which is just over the back of the pub where the gibbet used to be. What we have now is the soul of Flori wandering around the pub just looking for anybody with a beard, which her husband and lover both sported.

**• When did you first notice or feel that something strange was with you in your pub?**
We first moved in about March 1995, and we had only been here about a week, when my wife went upstairs to the restaurant to look at tables and found one of them completely covered in salt. She thought that it may have been the staff not clearing up properly after them, so she tidied up. Anyway about twenty minutes later she went back up and found the table next to it covered in pepper, but there was no pepper pot to be found.

**• So what other strange occurrences have been attributed to Flori?**
There are just so many things that happen that cannot be accounted for in any rational or sane manner. The most bizarre happenings go on here, such as up in the restaurant where we have a chandelier and one night two of the staff were laying a table when they looked up and saw the chandelier just revolving at quite a high rate, not just a gentle spin but quite hectic, and sitting underneath it was a bloke with a beard.

We have also experienced the juke box switch itself on and off without anyone being anywhere near it. Another thing was that water mysteriously started dripping on the cigarette machine. There was a room above there but when the previous landlord checked, it looked like a pitcher of water had been thrown around but there was no-one there.

► The mystical Standing Stones at Avebury, Wiltshire. The area is noted as one of the most paranormal in Britain.

# Lion Inn

**Pat McCann and his wife Anne, have been landlord and landlady of the Red Lion for the past 11 months and despite never having seen the ghost before, they have most certainly felt its presence on many occasions and have several stories to tell about 'Flori'.**

On another occasion in the pool room some lads had complained that the juke box wasn't playing their record, so I went down and asked them if they had put their money in, to which they replied 'yes'. I then asked them which record they were trying to play and they said 'Nirvana'. I realised the problem and told them that Flori didn't like that one. Anyway, as more of a leg pull, I said "go on Flori they've put their money in, let them listen to their record", and to my surprise the record started. As for the guys, I have never seen them move so fast in all my life, they were out of the pub in seconds.

Another film crew had also come along to do an interview, as the story of Flori's ghost is very popular in these parts, and for the whole time that they were with us all the beer went cloudy while the cameras were rolling, but as soon as the filming had stopped the beer went back to its normal colour.

▲ The Red Lion Inn at Avebury is legendary for the ghost of Flori, who has a thing about men with beards.

**• Have you ever had any ghostly experiences when you have been alone in the pub?**

Yes, the strangest thing to happen to me revolved around the dummy of Flori which we have on display. One night a bright spark had taken the head off the shoulders and put it under her arm for a joke. So I put her back together again and said "there we are Flori, back to normal again", and with that the juke box came on and played *Will You Love Me Forever?*

**Another film crew had also come along to do an interview, as the story of Flori's ghost is very popular in these parts, and for the whole time that they were with us all the beer went cloudy while the cameras were rolling.**

▲ A man in deep thought: 'Mmmm, I'm sure there is a haunted pub around here somewhere. C'mon troops!'

This was after closing and nobody else was about, so I left the pool room pretty rapidly.

**• I understand that you have had a couple of celebritics visit the pub because of Flori?**
Oh yes, around about August 1995 Michael Bentine did a programme on HTV. Once again we have the bearded connection and once again strange things happened. For instance, four sets of lights blew and a beer glass smashed outside for no reason.

**• Has anyone ever seen Flori's ghostly image, or is she just a mischievous object-moving entity?**
Yes on a couple of occasions. Once the guy who looks after the cellar for us was sitting at the bottom of the bar and he saw someone go past just out of the corner of his eye, he suddenly realised that all the doors were locked. The vision disappeared into the well in the pub, he looked but never found her. He described her as wearing a long black frock.

The other lady who actually saw her was up in the top bar, and after going to the Ladies, she came back and said "you've got a ghost". I said "yes of course we have", trying to amuse her, when she said, "oh yes she's about 22, dressed in a long black flowing skirt, white blouse, black bodice top and a white mop cap, probably from around about the 1600's." I thought bloody hell, I'm not going to argue with you!

Incidentally I mentioned this to the chap who runs the bar in the evening, and he said that it may be a coincidence but that same night the bar had gone icy cold, so they had checked the doors and found that they were all shut. I asked him what time this had happened and he replied about ten past ten, which was the same time as the sighting.

**The pub itself dates back to 1802, but the building goes back as far as the 1600's, which is where the civil war connection is made with the pub and Flori.**

**"She's about 22, dressed in a long black flowing skirt, white blouse, black bodice top and a white mop cap, probably from around about the 1600's."**

• **When you took over the pub 11 months ago, were you and your wife forewarned about the ghost of Flori?**
We had heard the stories of the hauntings, but we had also heard that the previous landlord had certainly used the story to drum up publicity and extra trade, however, the story is not make believe, he simply saw a chance to attract some extra business and did so. The fact that the pub is most certainly haunted can be verified by the people who have actually encountered Flori's apparition, including a guest who stayed here one Saturday night.

• **Have you ever thought of calling in an Exorcist to carry out what is termed a 'rescue' on Flori?**
No we have never thought it necessary to do so, however, we are surprised at the lack of ghost hunters visiting us, we believed that more people may have taken an interest locally but they have not yet surfaced. We did hear that the previous landlord had the well blessed by Druids in a ceremony, but this was probably done for his own benefit rather than for the benefit of Flori, having said that, I am sure it has helped her in the long run.

• **If you have not wanted to enlist the services of an Exorcist you must consider Flori quite friendly?**
Oh yes! She is definitely happy. We have been told that the weird happenings have quietened down quite considerably since we took over the running of the pub, and that is most likely due to the fact that the atmosphere is much improved nowadays.

• **In your own words how would you best describe Flori?**
A mischievous young lady who is apt to cause a few problems, she is not malicious and doesn't want to cause anybody any harm, but does feel that this is her place and although she doesn't have strict rules, if anyone steps out of line she gives them a small warning and something will happen. She seems very happy, whether she is trapped here by the rays that come of the stones at Avebury caused by the Ley Lines, or she is just meant to spend her time hunting out men with beards, she is content and that's how we intend her to remain.

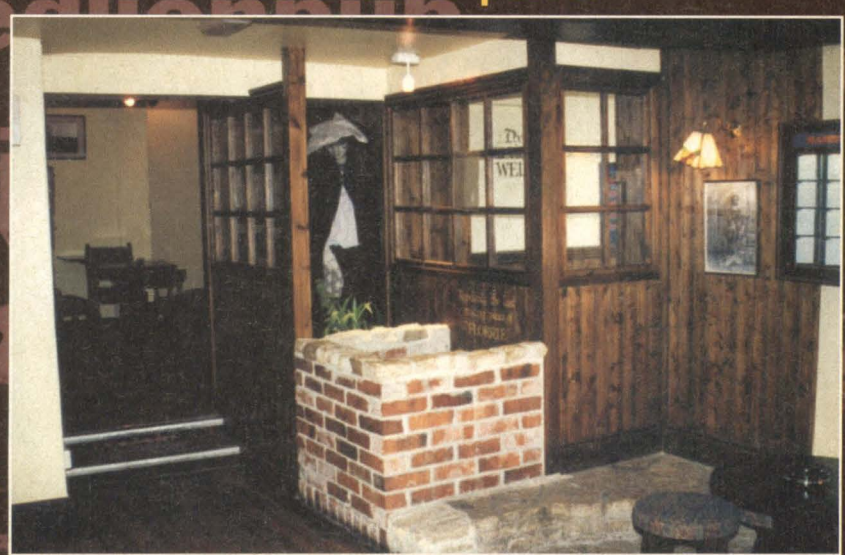
◀ The pub has a wooden engraving of Flori's husband throwing her down the well after finding her with her lover.

If you feel like visiting the Red Lion Inn and sampling the ales and, dare I say spirits, then you can find it on the main A361 in Avebury. The exact address is The Red Lion Inn, High St, Avebury, Wiltshire SN8 1RF.

Whilst in Avebury you can visit the legendary and enchanting Avebury Circle, which contain the Standing Stones, a sight not to be missed.

**Encounters** would also like to hear from other landlords and landladies of supposed haunted pubs for future features in the magazine, so if you think your local's being spooked then simply contact us at the usual address.

**A mischievous young lady who is apt to cause a few problems, she is not malicious and doesn't want to cause anybody any harm, but does feel that this is her place.**



# In the PICTURE

**There is plenty to get worked up about in future cinema releases. From directors such as Robert Rodriguez, to babes (oops, mustn't call her that) such as Pamela Anderson, we prepare for both the unpredictable and the completely predictable in screen entertainment. A peek even further into the future is also taken for those who are really keen, and a blood lusting video gets a bloody good review.**

## BARB WIRE

From the producers who brought you *The Mask*, a new anti-heroine hits the big screen. Pamela's first outing onto the big screen has made the best use of her assets, both of them, and has therefore made the film unmissable for the hordes of rampant, panting schoolboys who will be plying the box office with their pocket money.

Based on a comic strip character, Pam ditches the sex-bomb wet-look approach in favour of sex-bomb bitch from hell (it means she snarls instead of smiles folks). In this latest Hollywood flick, possibly spawned after the short term commotion aboutTankgirl, Pam plays a hard nosed proprietress of a bar aptly named 'The Hammerhead'.

Set in a grim future where civil war has broken out for the second time in US history, a Congregationalist army is traversing America from East to West, babarically slaying anyone standing against them. Pam's bar is luckily in a neutral city and caters for people who don't give a toss.

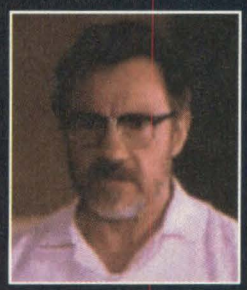
Barb is supposed to be a ferocious ex-freedom fighter for the Resistance who has become disillusioned with the war and now only cares for three things, her blind young brother, the bar and herself. The fact that her brother is blind and somewhat helpless is a clue to his demise, a definite set-up for sympathy.

Eventually our heroine finds herself caught up in the fighting once again, after meeting Alex Hood and Tyra Armstrong, a pair of desperate fighters in need of her services. It all amounts to an excuse for Pam to run around shooting people and riding her Harley, with that diabolical strap line: 'Don't call me Babe!'

PROPAGANDA/DARK HORSE ENTERTAINMENT

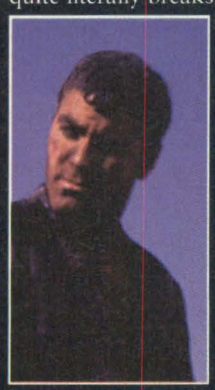
# FROM DUSK TILL DAWN

Quentin Tarantino, the brightest spark of '95 is set to continue his reign as 'the coolest' well into this year. Since his initial success he has relied fairly heavily on his reputation by making fleeting appearances in movies not unlike his own. His latest acting (also writing) part is predictably in a testosterone-oozing violent action thriller, alongside more established acting talent such as Harvey Keitel, to whom, it could be argued Tarantino owes his success (in part for putting up the money for Reservoir Dogs). Tarantino also seems to have forged a firm bond with the highly creditable Robert Rodriguez, responsible for the slick *Desperado* and the best quadrant of *Four Rooms*.



So why should *Dusk Till Dawn* feature as a paranormal preview? Because it is a vampire movie. This is not the usual gothic Transylvanian fest though, it is set in sleaziest Mexico. Two brothers, who are possibly the most dangerous criminals around, Seth and Richard Gecko (George Cloony and Quentin Tarantino) are wanted men, on the run and evading police traps. They have one chance of sanctuary which is crossing the Mexican border, by offering some of their loot to a strange man named Carlos (Cheech Marin). First they must meet him at the 'Titty Twister', a wildwest bar. Unfortunately, the owners who run the bar are a bunch of the nastiest vampires in all Mexico.

The bar resembles the Mayan ruin at Uxmal, old and weather beaten, glowing in the dusk light. The idea being that it is a lure for the 'no-bodies' of the world who can be eaten and will not be missed. The action occurs over just one night, when the hardened gangsters have to survive the wrath of their strange and thirsty hosts. As soon as the first drop of blood hits the floor, all hell quite literally breaks loose.



Injected with an off-beat humour that is present in all of the Tarantino/Rodriguez films and pumped with action, From Dust Till Dawn could be the biggest film of the year. Certainly nothing like Bram Stoker's Dracula, which has to be a good thing.

MAXWELL FILMS
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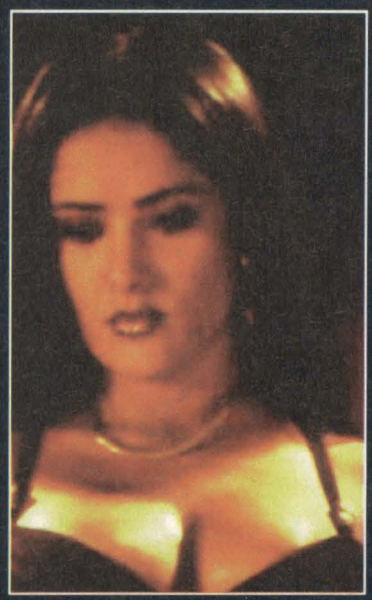

## THE MANY FACES OF DRACULA

A rare-ish video documentary on our pale-faced blood sucking legend. This has been put together stylishly but unfortunately is not widely available. It tells the story of Count Dracula through cinema history and gives a very comprehensive overview of his celluloid appearances, in an very entertaining way.

The film looks at legendary Draculas such as Nosferatu, Bela Lugosi's brilliant adaptations of the Count and of course Christopher Lee. There is lots of behind-the-scenes footage and original trailers for the films are included. The movie also finds the time to look at some of the wild and wacky Dracula productions, such as William Marshall as 'Blacula' and the classic Seven Brothers and their Sister meet Dracula.

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# FUTURE SHOCKERS

Sci-fi, Paranormmal and Horror related movies to look forward to in the future from Hollywood

## Men In Black

Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith will be playing two sinister types who work for the Immigration and Naturalisation Service. As any self respecting UFO enthusiast will know, the 'Men in Black' try and cover up all UFO/alien stories either by intimidation or more cunning means. At the moment news on this future film is not exactly forthcoming, so watch this space.

This may very well be one of several UFO films to emerge from Hollywood. They're not stupid, well not when it comes to making money, and America is more aware of UFO hype than England. One of the latest rumours is that there may be a film based around penetrating Area 51. Can't wait!

COLUMBIA/AMBLIN ENTERTAINMENT

## Screamers

If you appreciate the style of *The Terminator, Alien, Predator* or *Hardware*, this is right up your alley. Not released until the Summer, *Screamers* is set on the mining planet Sirius B6 in the year 2078AD.

The planet is ravaged and decimated by a decade of war, but the scientists have just created the perfect, most effective weapon.

That weapon is the 'Screamer', a blade-wielding, self replicating race of killing devices. They are designed for one purpose only, to hunt down and destroy all enemy life forms. Unfortunately the ultimate killer has decided to continue its evolution without human guidance or interference, (that old chestnut!) and by doing this has come up with a new mission. It now wishes to wipe out all life – with no exceptions.

Packed with special effects and bristling with atmosphere, Screamers will burst onto our screens later this year. With films like this, the atmosphere will have to be just right to earn itself a decent reputation. Too many *Alien/Terminator* clones fall by the wayside with the endless corny lines and the same old endings. Let's hope this one rises above that movie makers' temptations.

Starring, Peter Weller and Jennifer Rubin.
Release Date, Summer 1996.

## An American Werewolf in Paris

Word is out that the long awaited sequel to *An American Werewolf in London* is under way. The original's novel approach to the werewolf picture, set in our very own capital, with a great music score and some top notch special effects, really was a refreshing film, worthy of its classic reputation.

The question has to be, will the sequel let its predecessor down? Or will Director Anthony Waller manage to capture the essence of the first film without it looking like a cheap re-make. Very little is known at this early stage but it looks like Julie Deply and Andy McDermott will feature. If you are thinking Andy McDermott sounds familiar, a man of this name has written for **Encounters** on two occasions, and despite what he says, I have my doubts that this is his big break at last!

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# Readers' Stories

# THE GREEN CHILDREN OF WOOLPIT

One of my hobbies is the research of ancient site mysteries. As the leader of BEAMS, my investigations have taken me on some solitary paths. These tracks, although often ignored by so called academics, are isolated, yet worth taking because many have led me to significant and often unconsidered truths about our past.

Take a place called Woolpit, in Suffolk, as a good case in point. Who for one moment would have believed that there is a definite link between this obscure little village, possible alien beings, Earth magic and the US President's residence, The White House?

Criss-crossed by ley lines and steeped in legend, Woolpit derives its name from Wolf-Pit, and it is reputed that the last wolf in Suffolk was killed here. In Saxon times these predatory canines freely roamed the once vast forests of East Anglia. The tradition for this Suffolk region was that any wolf, unfortunate enough to be captured, was thrown into a deep pit where the village now stands, and left to die. Tradition says that a local farmer once saw a phantom wolf emerge from the Wolfpit and vanish before his eyes.

It was also in Woolpit that two 'Green Children' were supposedly found during the 12th Century (exact date unknown) The story goes that at harvest time, two beings (fairies or children), one male and one female both with green skin, were found wandering near the Wolf-Pits, both dressed in a strange material that no-one had ever seen before. They were eventually adopted by the villagers but the male refused all food and soon died. Although records are a bit vague about the fate of the female, it is said that she settled there and her skin gradually lost its green colour.

I understand that these days Woolpit has a large brick-yard from which bricks were sent for the building of the US Presidential Offices, The White House. I also understand that in a recent survey of staff who have worked at the White House, when asked if they had seen a ghost or encountered poltergeist activity whilst working there, more than a quarter said "yes".

My research has thrown up another couple of pieces of interesting information. This area has had more than its fair share of UFO flaps over the years, covering most points from Bury St Edmunds down to Stowmarket, with Woolpit stuck in the middle of it all.

As well as many other parts of Britain and the continent, during the 16th and 17th Centuries, the Wolf-Pits and neighbouring villages, were the haunt of 'Gaia' or Earth worshippers, who praised creation, rather than the creator itself. These people featured prominently during the infamous witch trials that were carried out in the name of Christianity, but that is not all...

Whilst looking into the curious subject of Gaia worship I stumbled on an absolutely spine chilling declaration. According to a work by the Rev. D. Kinman, about four thousand years ago, Gaia, or Mother Earth was symbolised by the triple six number. I double checked this amazing fact and indeed, the number for Earth, Gaia, in ancient Babylon, was the satanic number 666, the number of The Beast.

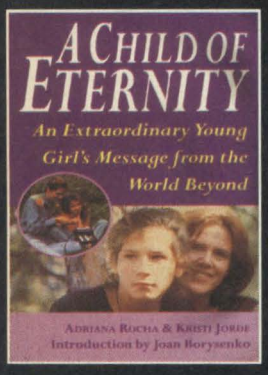
If the reader has interpreted and fully understood the implications of my findings, then it must be asked, "what is the true religion of those who hold the reins of power in America?"

**Encounters** says: We would like to thank Ken Parsons for sharing his research with the magazine. It is fascinating when several different occourances (some may prefer to call them coincidences) point to a single place or single explanation. We are always pleased to receive reader's theories on any paranormal subject.

**This article was sent to us by Ken Parsons, of the British Earth Aerial Mysteries Society. Ken is a very diligent researcher who often uncovers facts that others wouldn't even dream of looking for, and the following story is proof of that statement.**

# The Word

Welcome to The Word. The Encounters team has been busily reading the latest in paranormal prose this month to bring you our new section in the magazine. Each issue we will be looking at a selection of books on subjects that we think will interest you. Read on...


A CHILD OF ETERNITY
An Extraordinary Young Girl's Message from the World Beyond
ADRIANA ROCHA & KRISTI JORDE
Introduction by Joan Borysenko

## A CHILD OF ETERNITY

**Authors:** Adriana Rocha and Kristi Jorde
**Publisher:** Piatkus Books
**R.R.P:** £12.99

This is the true story of Adriana Rocha, a thirteen year old with no speech and a body that continually lets her down. She is autistic, but shows some clear signs of sage like skills. Adriana was first diagnosed at the age of four and was later introduced to a technique called Facilitated Communications, a keyboard system that allows autistic persons to communicate with others. Her first attempts at writing were quite amazing, it became apparent that Adriana had been observing everything from her silent world. Adriana began to tell her mother about her past lives, and about Jesus. This book is a testimony to Adriana's courage and to Kristi's dedication and definitely is one not to be missed.

MW

## MARY'S MESSAGE TO THE WORLD

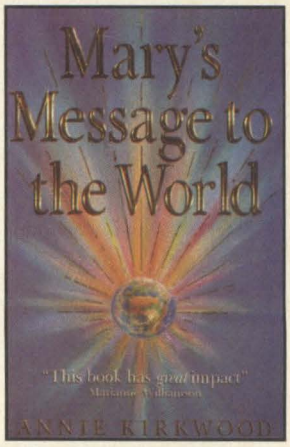
**Author:** Annie Kirkwood
**Publishers:** Piatkus Books
**R.R.P:** £9.99

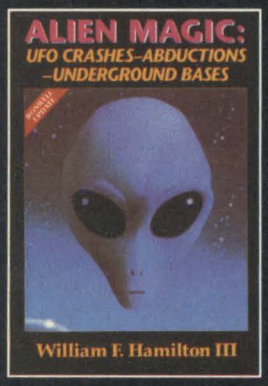
Author Annie Kirkwood, claims that over a period of four years she received messages in the form of 'talks' from The Virgin Mary. During these conversations Mary relayed news of many physical changes that would occur on Earth.

The book says that some of these changes have already occurred, but the majority could be avoided if the people of Earth could only learn to love one another more. Although this is extremely thought provoking, the real message being conveyed is not one of global destruction, but how to find God.

The book takes us through Mary and Joseph's life on Earth, the importance of prayer, Mary's message to the world and even a message from Jesus, and if you are an ardent religious fanatic then this is the book for you. However, this book also appeals if your beliefs in the creation of humanity are some what extraterrestrial in origin, simply because the messages given by Mary bear a striking similarity to messages related to abductees during alien encounters.

MW




## ALIEN MAGIC: UFO CRASHES, ABDUCTIONS AND UNDERGROUND BASES

**Author:** William F Hamilton
**Publisher:** Global Communication
**R.R.P:** Unknown

At first sight you may believe this to be a children's book but as soon as you open it up you will be pleasantly surprised to find that this is a little gem of UFO information, ideal for both the novice and hardened investigator. The topics covered in this book are wide but quite predictable, including abductions, contactees, Area 51, saucer crashes, unidentified submersible objects, pilot interceptions, secret tunnels and much much more. The subjects within are neatly laid out and organised, and are impeccably researched in great detail. There are a few photographs and artists' impressions, and if I was to moan, it would have to be that these are all in black and white. A splash of colour would have been nice. Minor gripe aside, this is an excellent start for anyone who wishes to learn about the subject of UFOs, quickly. This book is 140 pages of sheer indulgence and should grace any enthusiast's book shelf.

MW

## THE ENERGY CONNECTION

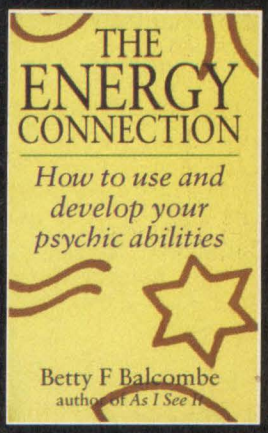
**Author:** Betty. F. Balcombe
**Publisher:** Piatkus Books
**R.R.P:** £9.99

This book is subtitled *How To Use And Develop Your Psychic Abilities*, but should really be called 'everything you ever wanted to know about psychic development', because it's all here. It is a truly brilliant and informative read from the pen of talented psychic, healer, teacher and counsellor, Betty Balcombe.

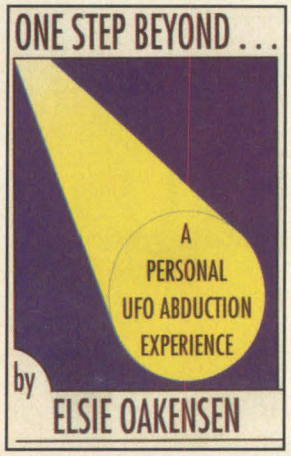
Betty shows how to connect with the energy of life and how to care for your physical, spiritual and mental self. Other subjects included are soul energy, out of body experiences, ley lines, auras and absent healing.

All in all, this is an absorbing and fascinating addition to the psychic ability range of books currently available and well worth reading. There is so much in the book to learn about and the writing is so simplified and un-technical that it makes it a real joy to read.

MW




## ONE STEP BEYOND, A PERSONAL UFO ABDUCTION EXPERIENCE




**Author:** Elsie Oakensen
**Publishers:** Regency Press
**R.R.P:** £7.50

This is yet another of the growing number of personal UFO experience books currently flooding the market. However, this one does have a refreshing difference, that being that Elsie does not constantly go on about her encounter, instead she chose to write about the subsequent effect it had on her life, the constant interviews for both TV and radio, the barrage of newspaper reports and the endless meetings with helpful experts in the field of Ufology. At times this book reads as a who's who of the UFO fraternity, but that only serves to reinforce the importance of Elsie's experience at the time. The book charts Elsie's day to day activities and monitors her spiritual growth, something very commonly reported by UFO abductees.

Elsie comes across very clearly as a level headed and caring person who simply wanted some answers to questions being posed by countless victims of alien intervention, and by the end of the book you will see that she has found them.

All in all, very enjoyable, with a clever touch of light-heartedness which unfortunately is so desperately missing from many other similar books.

MW

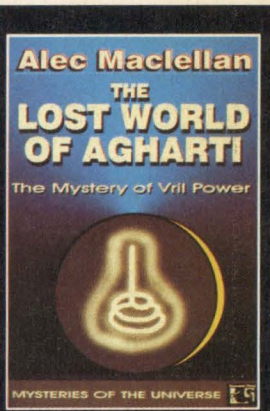
## THE LOST WORLD OF AGHARTI

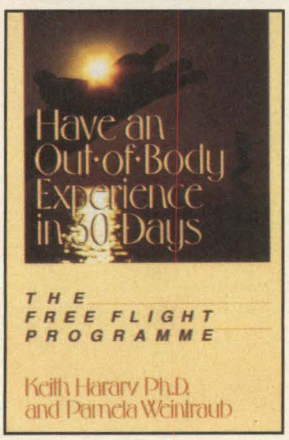
**Author:** Alec MacLellan
**Publisher:** Souvenir Press
**R.R.P:** £7.99

This book was first published in 1982 and its popularity has led to this reprint in paperback form. The fascinating subjects crammed between its two covers span the following: underground tunnels, lost cities, strange cave dwelling peoples and legendary worlds. However, if the little lot above does not really grab you as interesting then you may still be surprised as the book is also a good read, being both brilliantly researched and absorbingly straightforward to follow.

It brings together legends of underground worlds from all over the globe and packages them nicely into one book. If anything, this book may motivate you to hoist on your rucksack, pull on your hiking boots, and go off searching for yourselves.

MW




## HAVE AN OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE IN 30 DAYS

**Author:** Keith Halary Ph.D. and Pamela Weintraub
**Publisher:** Thortons
**R.R.P:** £5.99

Promoted as a manual, with step by step instructions and directives, this is a practical, involving book and not a Sunday read. Making the perhaps over confident promise of teaching you how to have Out of Body Experiences within a relatively short amount of time, the book has a tremendous expectation to live up to. Unfortunately, not having the thirty days to complete the plan in the correct timely procedure I may not be doing the book justice with a quick read. From early on you will be asked to carry out mental exercises and sharpen your perceptual powers. What the book will deliver if you follow its so called 'Flight Programme', is a method of becoming acutely aware of yourself and your environment. Some of the later stages of the plan are very unusual and exciting and also a little hard I would expect, for the majority to take seriously, like time travel OBEs and OBE sex.

In summary, I would say that this is an interesting, concise and easy to follow guide.

RF

# STILL NOT CONV

# Evidence of th

It is widely believed that werewolves are merely a creation of cinema, and the morphing of people into beasts is not credible by any stretch of the imagination. The legend of the werewolf however does have foundations in reality. It is no mystery that the moon effects people like it effects the tide, as people are primarily composed of water. The werewolf is not the only beast of legend to have roots in a truth. Check out the following creatures and see how a legend is made.

## GROTESQUES

These were encountered on a regular basis by wandering Greek philosophers. They, as their name suggests, come in a varied assortment of hideous shapes, including one eyed men and women, and people with only one leg that is centrally positioned on their lower body. Also, half man, half leprechaun characters were often witnessed.

These so called Grotesques were in fact genuine freaks of nature and more often than not merely the handicapped who have fallen victim to the cruelty and ignorance of the unsympathetic. The 'freaks' in more recent years, specifically Victorian times, were only able to find jobs in shows as a spectacle for the inquisitive. These people include the bearded lady, dog boy, lobster boy (only two claw like fingers) and unseparated Siamese twins.

## BERSERKERS

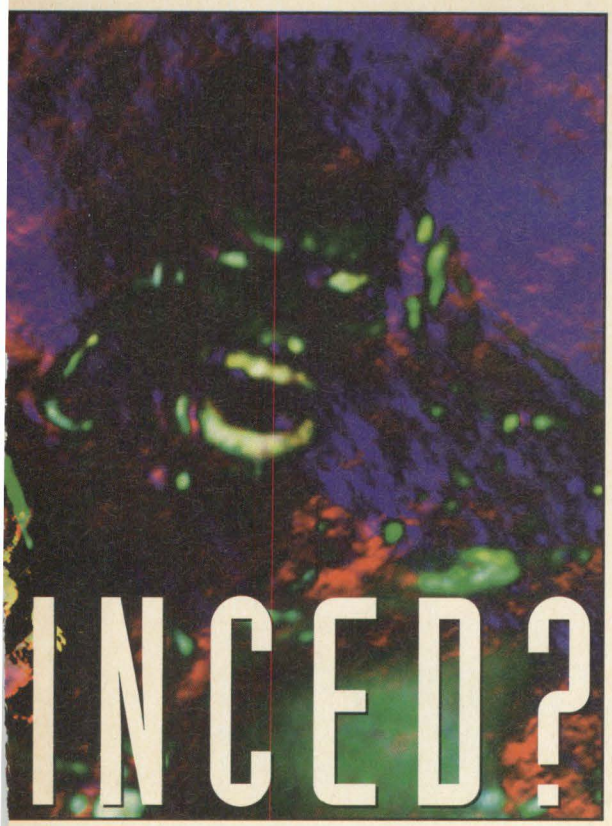
A Berserker is traditionally a Scandinavian warrior dressed as a wolf, probably to spread fear effectively within the enemy ranks. Berserkers are believed to have originated around the 5th or 6th Century. The Apache Indians also wore a traditional wolf skin for battle, again in order to terrify the enemy who had strong beliefs that the wolf was a powerful and skilled hunter and therefore, the Apache would surely triumph as they were in league with wolves.

## TROLLS

Trolls are legendary cannibalistic, woodland dwellers, who range in height from seven or eight inches tall, to the size of a man. It is thought that the smaller Trolls could slip into your bedroom at night and while you lay asleep they would steal your breath. In some legends Trolls are also capable of 'Shape Shifting', that is to say, they can change their form in order to entrap their chosen prey. The sign of a Troll being in the vicinity is often said to be the sight of very unusual droppings left by the Troll, unusual in the sense that some people say the dung contains human parts!

## JENNY HANIVERS

This is a very odd name given to an even odder creation. No-one seems to know for sure where the name derives, but a Jenny Haniver is a monster formed out of the parts of sea animals, and then passed off as dragons, mermaids and anomalous sea creatures. It is believed that Jenny Hanivers were being sold as early as the 1930s. But the general public was being deceived by their peers, even back in the 13th Century when the intrepid explorer Marco Polo reported that the infamous Sumattran pygmies, being peddled to travellers of that time, were in fact created by the islanders from where they were supposed to originate.



# INCED?

# e Beast

## DOPPLEGANGERS

Have you ever been told that you have been seen in a place where you were not? It is a fairly common experience and has led to an expression we are probably all familiar with, the 'Doppleganger'. A Doppleganger is said to lurk in the dark side of everyone, in theory being the exact opposite of yourself. In some circumstances the Doppleganger represents the evil within all of us and can wreak havoc upon everything it touches. However, the modern interpretation of a Doppleganger is the chance sighting of your exact double carrying out a task or action which you have done before. The word 'Doppleganger' literally translated from German means 'double goer'.

## THE GREYS

If you are compiling a list of creatures and monsters that can get to you even in the safe confines of your own home, then you really can't leave them out, can you? The Greys, as we have come to know them, have the ability to pass through solid structures such as walls, floors, doors and buildings without breaking into a sweat. They can render you unconscious in a split second; they can read your mind and install screen memories; they can levitate the heaviest object almost as though it was made of cotton wool and they can telepathically transfer thoughts and actions. Greys can perform hi-tech surgery and place implants into their subjects; they may be able to bend and distort time; they appear to have no set agenda; they can choose their victims randomly and at will and without the victim's co-operation, and then they vanish without trace into the night. A recent regression by our **Encounters** therapist revealed evidence of 'Shape Shifting' as well. This particular creature has become very well known to us and has caused much alarm. Try not to think of it when you go to bed tonight!

## INCUBUS AND SUCCUBUS

These are best described as sexual demons who prey on their victims whilst they are sleeping and defenceless. Although it is believed that these little monsters are out of the realms of legend it has been reported by extremely level headed people, usually from the Scandinavian regions, of genuine encounters with an Incubus or Succubus. These encounters are said to leave the recipients terrified, even for their lives.

## BEAN NIGHE

This is the Scottish equivalent of the Irish Banshee. She can be seen wandering near deserted brooks and streams and is believed to be the spirit of those who had died during childbirth.

Folklore says that if you are brave enough to sneak up to one while she is washing and suck her breast you can claim from her one wish. However, the Bean Nighe allegedly has one nostril, protruding teeth and webbed feet, so probably your wish would be that you had never have done it in the first place.

## MAHR

These are the shape-shifting spirits of deceased family members and also, worryingly, of the living, whose souls have left the body at night. This legend is thought to have originated in ancient Slavia. The entities then pray on human victims whilst they are sleeping and have even been known to suck their blood. They can appear as hares, moths, butterflies or even a blade of straw.

## PHOOKA

This is an Irish elf who can appear in a wide variety of forms, usually representing an animal. The most common form is that of a horse with fiery eyes. The Phooka likes to play practical jokes on unwary travellers by appearing to be a dishevelled horse which the traveller can use for a ride home, only for the traveller to be thrown from the Phooka into a muddy ditch, or similar. The Phooka can be heard laughing as it gallops away. Nobody likes a practical joker!

A Doppleganger is said to lurk in the dark side of everyone, in theory being the exact opposite of yourself.

# PARANORMAL Organisations

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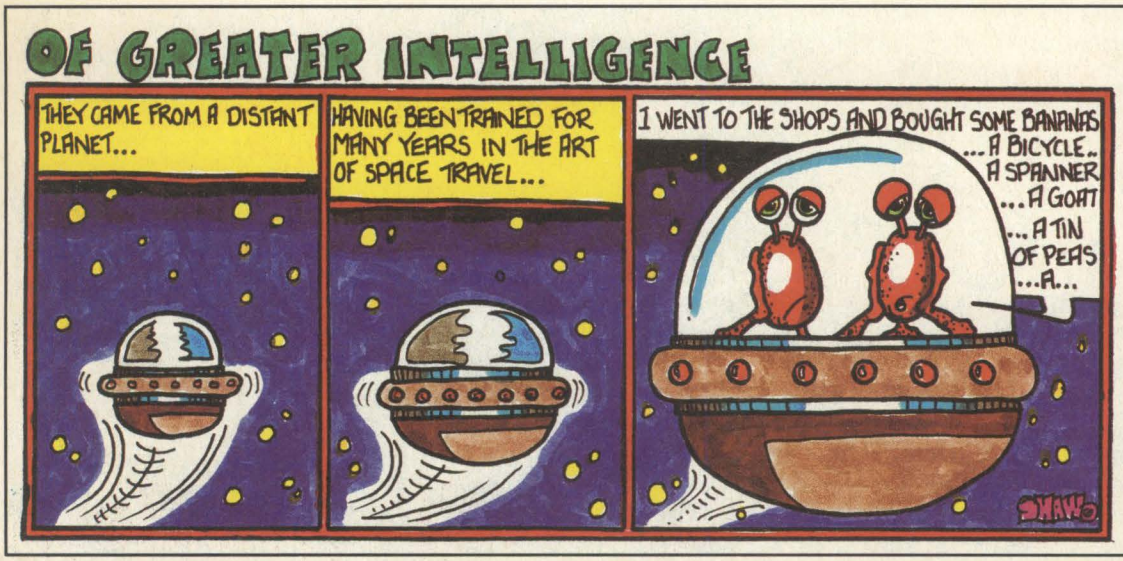
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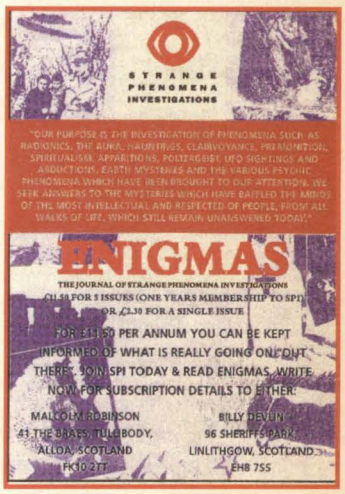
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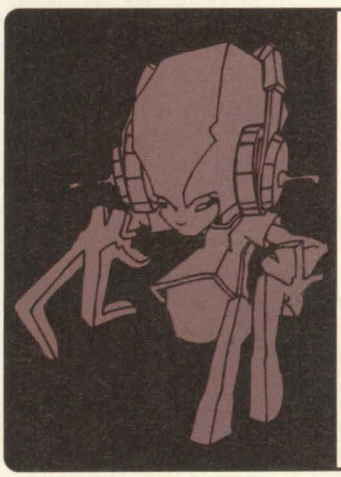

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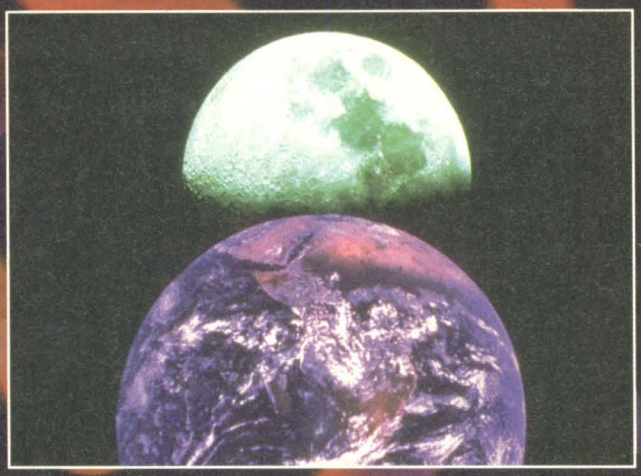

Next issue we get technical and investigate 'sacred geometry'. Is there a grand design to the universe? Why does the moon appear exactly the same size as the Earth from ground level when the chances against this coincidence are so enormous?

We will also investigate the phenomenon of Angels. Actual sightings of Angelic Beings have been numerous, sometimes with multiple witnesses.

Celebrity UFO sightings, the science of alchemy, more regression stories, Kirilian photography and much much more will all feature in issue eight, as well as all the usuals of course. Don't miss out.

## ENCOUNTERS EIGHT

### Thursday 2 May

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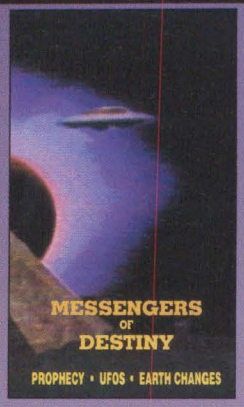


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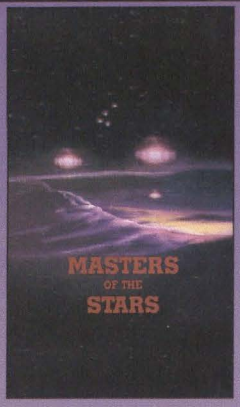


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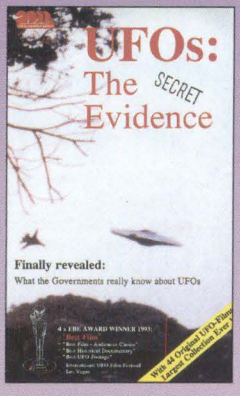


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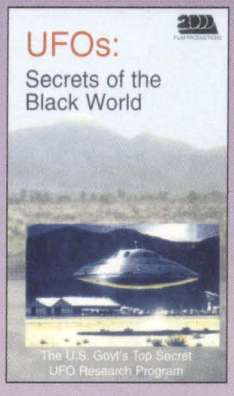


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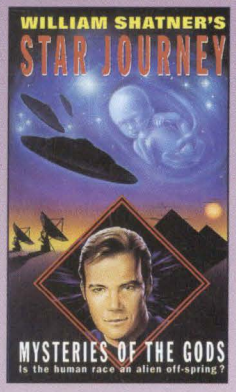


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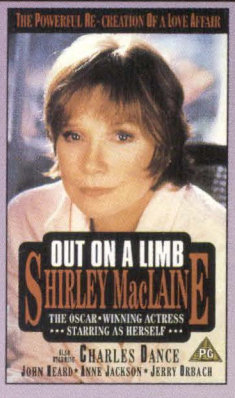


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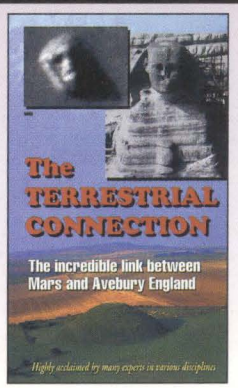


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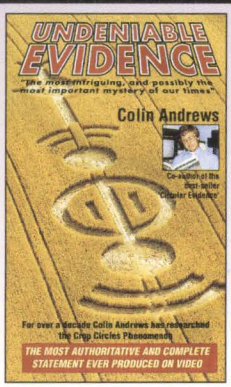


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